

October 2008 Rs.10/- 80 Pages

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children



FESTIVAL TIME!

PARLE

Ram and Shyam

MMM...POPPINS!

Stuck at Sea

RAM AND SHYAM ARE ON A CRUISE.

HELLO CHILDREN. I HOPE YOU'RE ENJOYING YOURSELVES!

ABSOLUTELY, SIR. IT'S WONDERFUL!

A FEW HOURS LATER,

WHAT HAPPENED? WHY IS THE SHIP NOT MOVING?

THE ENGINES HAVE FAILED, SON. NOW WE'RE STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA.

RAM AND SHYAM LOOK AROUND AT THE VAST EXPANSE OF THE SEA.

BUT DON'T WE HAVE LIFEBOATS TO REACH THE SHORE?

NOT ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE

CAN'T WE RADIO FOR HELP?

NO, SON. THE FAILED ENGINES HAVE CAUSED A POWER FAILURE. SO WE CAN'T SIGNAL ANY SHIP THAT MAY BE IN THE VICINITY.

RAM AND SHYAM ARE NOW IN THEIR CABIN, RUMMAGING THROUGH THEIR LUGGAGE.

I THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN TO PACK THE POPPINS-BLASTER.

HERE IT IS! I HAD REMEMBERED

GOOD BOY, SHYAM. LET'S GO

NEXT THING, THEY'RE ON THE DECK WITH THE POPPINS-BLASTER. RAM HANDS OVER THE POPPINS WHILE SHYAM STARTS SHOOTING. SOON THERE'S AN EXPLOSION OF COLOURS OVER THE SHIP

WOW

SOON, ANOTHER SHIP ARRIVES AND ALL THE PASSENGERS ARE TRANSFERRED.

WOW, CHILDREN. WHAT A BRILLIANT IDEA!

RAM AND SHYAM SHARE THE POPPINS WITH EVERYONE ON THE SHIP.

THEY HAVE SO MANY COLOURS!

GOLI RAINBOW WALI

Of all created things the loveliest.
And most divine are children.

-William Canton

October 2008 Vol.XXI, No.4

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THE Magazine for Children

Dear Reader,

Can you name the country where Cochabamba the third largest conurbation is situated?

Probably you are scratching your head and so would I, if I had not read the news described below.

To Akshay Rajagopal a eleven year old Indian American from Nabarska, the question would not pose a problem. "Bolivia", he would reply immediately.

He answered many such difficult questions and did not miss even a single one. No wonder, he earned the title "National Geographic Bee", besides a prize of \$25,000!

Incidentally, conurbation is the name given to

*Efforts
Never
Fail!*



any group of towns which have become a single entity owing to expansion.

Akshay is a sixth grade student and was the youngest among ten finalists in the contest held by National Geographic. His father says that Akshay has a photographic memory.

All of us are born equal, but a few are endowed with extraordinary mental powers as God's gift.

All of us can't become Akshays, but we can try, try and try to excel in our own field of activity. And this is where the human spirit equals divine grace. For, God sees to it that efforts never fail.

- Editor

There's only one list of words below, but three grids to search for them. Time yourself and check how quickly you can spot the familiar words.



ONE FOR THREE

APPLE EGG INK MOUSE
SEVEN YARD
BAT FAN JAR OWN ZEBRA
CURD GOAT KITE PAY
TIGER
DOG HOT LOCK REST VAN

J	A	N	L	O	C
V	A	S	O	T	U
A	T	R	C	O	R
N	U	G	K	H	D
K	O	D	R	A	Y
D	R	P	A	Y	L

B	O	W	N	O	E
B	A	T	R	U	S
N	X	G	G	E	U
K	I	T	E	P	O
N	E	V	E	S	M
V	T	A	O	G	W

F	A	B	K	Z	A
A	C	N	E	P	R
N	I	B	P	E	F
D	R	L	G	X	Z
A	E	I	J	L	O
H	T	T	S	E	R

- N.Lokeshwar, Std.VII,
Petit Seminaire H.S.S.,
Pudhucherry

Chiranjeevi is on the bandwagon of actors turned politicians and has announced the formation of "Praja Rajyam" party. His goal, he says, is upliftment of the poor and down-trodden. Well, this is the declared objective of almost all parties. However we wish the Andhra Pradesh actor all the best and hope

Roger Federer after losing the Wimbledon title to Nadal, came back with a bang to win the crown in the U.S. Open for the fifth time. This turned out to be his 13th grand slam title - just one behind the legendary Pete Sampras.

After showing resistance for a

ONE MORE ACTOR

that he will work to see his dream become a reality.

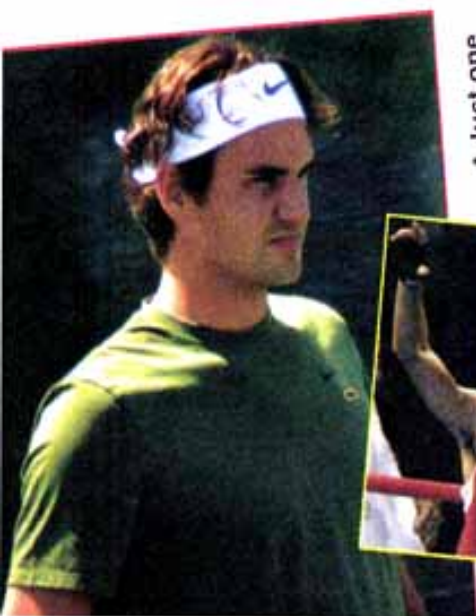
One gold and two bronzes is the total tally of India in Olympics and though the figure appears meagre, it is a record for India. Let us pray that this will be bettered in the years to come. Our congrats to gold winner Abhinav Bindra (rifle shooting) and to the bronze winners, Sushil Kumar (wrestling) and Vijender Kumar (boxing).

URNS

long time, Musharraf finally relented and resigned as President. Probably he will write a book justifying his actions! However, Pakistan is still troubled in many ways. Nawaz Sharif's P.M.L. (N) pulled out of the coalition. The P.P.P. government is surviving with the support of smaller parties. Zardari, husband of Benazir Bhutto, and leader of P.P.P. has been elected President of Pakistan. However, the shadow of corruption haunts him, while Nawaz Sharif is waiting for an opportunity to show his strength and grab power.

Though the 123 nuclear agreement with U.S.A. has crossed many hurdles and is awaiting final approval from the

*** Winners of...**



*** Just one behind!**





* Turns politician

POLITICIAN!

U.S. Congress (parliament), There seems to be a lot of misunderstanding on the provisions of the agreement. President Bush says that the agreement to supply fuel is not legally binding on U.S.A., where as India insists that it is!

The Trinamool Congress in West Bengal is agitating to get back the farm lands acquired by the government and given to Tatas for their Nano car project. The West Bengal government will not yield and the Tatas are threatening to pull out if a

solution is not found and agitation withdrawn.



* Elected President

While an agreement was reached in Kashmir regarding temporary land allotment to Amarnath shrine pilgrims, communal clashes erupted in Orissa between Hindus and Christians following the murder of Vishwa Hindu Parishad leader Swami Lakshmanananda. Before this violence could be quelled, devastating floods in Bihar took many lives and rendered thousands homeless. As if all these tragedies were not enough, serial blasts in the capital killed 30 and more than 100 were injured! "When will India enjoy peace and tranquility?" is the question asked by the common man.

* ... Bronzes



FESTIVAL TIME

With Ramzan winding up and Diwali round the corner and Christmas just a couple of months away, it's festival time in our country. Festivals are one very crucial aspect of a country like ours with so much diversity.

Diversity

What do we mean by the word diversity? 'Diversity' refers to 'different people' of different cultural groups – people who are distinctly unlike in their lifestyles and habits. India has plenty of this because every state itself has many differing

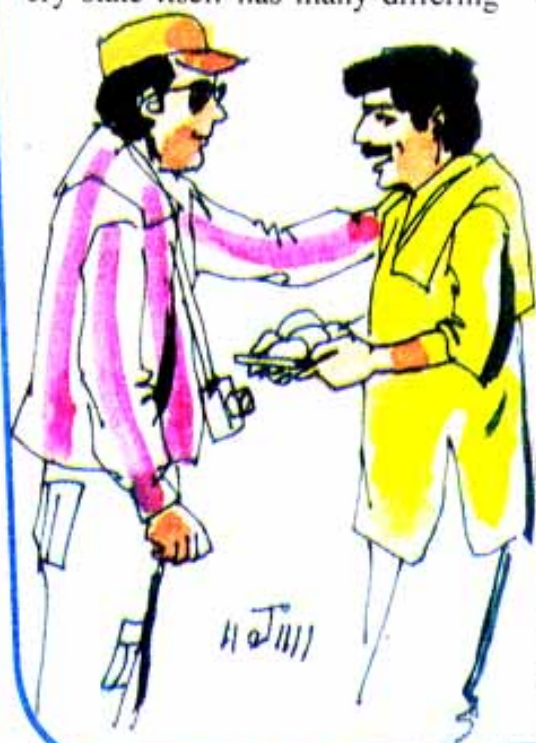
sub-cultures and so on. When you think of it, it is awesome how our country has so much variety in habits, ethnicities* and religions. That is the beauty of our India – so much of variety in every square inch of space.

But we have to remember, however, that whatever be our individual characteristics, as a whole, we are one people belonging to one country. That's why the slogan 'Unity in Diversity' has been so oft repeated.

Celebrations

Whatever distinct category of region or ethnic diversity we belong, all of us must admit that as a people, Indians love celebrations. We love sound, we love colour and we love each other's company. Any celebration is incomplete without family, extended family,

* Dictionary definition : Relating to large groups of people classed according to common racial, national, tribal, religious, linguistic, or cultural origin or background.



SANDHYA SRIDHAR

OUR 'ONENESS'!



friends and neighbours. We share with such gusto and heartiness that those from western countries are captivated by our very warm-hearted hospitality to even strangers. That in essence is part of our country's spirit, whatever be the religion or community we belong to.

Festivities

Thus we have a whole host of

festivities, be they religious or pertaining to the seasons. We have harvest festivals galore as spring falls in the different parts of the country – be it Baisakhi in the North or Pongal in Tamil Nadu, Onam in Kerala. The change of the calendar as marked by our various New Years, vary distinctly from the Western calendar new year of January 1. Then come the pan Indian festivals



pertaining to the varied religions – be it Id, Muharram, Ramzan, etc for the Muslims, Christmas or Easter for the Christians or Diwali, Navratri, etc for the Hindus. Then there are the birthdays of the varied prophets that include Mahavir Jayanthi (Jains) or the Buddha Purnima.

And of course, our national days.

We Love Sharing

Each of these festivals have one thing in common. Food and colour in the form of clothes or details like flowers (Onam), coloured powder (Holi), lamps (Diwali), etc. The sweets, the feasts are all shared. People visit one another, take gifts of sweets and dry fruits – and this is

common across all festivals, whatever religion we belong to.

So What Goes Wrong?

So what goes wrong with us – when we feel different from another religion or community? Why do we get so angry with each other that we gang up and attack another group of people who are otherwise our neighbours, our friends or fellow countrymen? What are we fighting for really? The sporadic and constant attacks by one community against another, the reactions, the anger... is this what we want? Do we want to live in a world where we constantly fight for issues, which truly should be personal – because

religious and cultural habits and beliefs are precisely that – an





individual's choice?

A Time to be Friends

With the season for festivals upon us, this is the time to show each other that we truly respect each other not just as individuals, but as individuals with a right to have their personal beliefs. I may like to worship Shiva, you may like to pray to Vishnu, my friend may want to pray to Jesus or Allah. This does not mean that we should hate each other – this merely means that we should learn to respect each others' personal beliefs.

As the future citizens of this

country, each of you have the responsibility to build a ONE community – and the time to begin is now. Use the festival time to make friends, make diverse friends – and this very diversity will enrich you and make you happy. You and I know inside our hearts, that this is exactly what makes India so rich – our oneness in the face of our many differences.

**Happy
Celebrations!**

3000BC : The Sumerians pioneered the idea of teaching. Education became available – but only to those who could afford to ‘pay’ a teacher for a lesson!

590BC : The city of Athens became the first to offer public education to all for a small fee. Free education was made available to offspring of war veterans.

AD 597 : The first school was opened in the United Kingdom in Canterbury.

859 : The world’s first university, still in existence, was founded in Fez, Morocco.

1064 : The first European University was founded in Parma, Italy.

DID YOU KNOW?

1160 : Oxford became the first University in England.

1538 : The first University of the New World was opened in Santo Domingo (now the Dominican Republic).

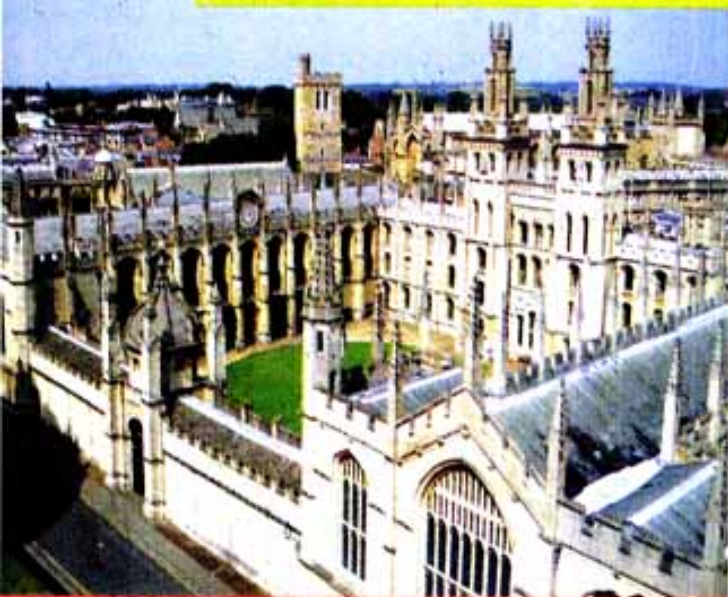
1635 : The first public school in the US opened in Boston.

1636 : Harvard became the first university in the US

1760 : The first school for deaf children was opened in Paris. Students were taught an early version of the sign language.

1781 : In Scotland a nursery school was opened for the first time to take care of babies whose parents

EDUCATION



went to work.

1783 : Poland became the first country to ban corporal punishments in schools.

1784 : The first school for blind children was opened in Paris.

1841 : Oberlin

* Oxford



TIMELINE

College became the first institution in the USA to award degrees to women.

1871 : A school in New York introduced for the first time, distance learning courses, to enable children from far off places to learn through postal lessons.

1987 : Corporal punishment was banned in all State schools in the UK.

1999 : Private schools in UK too

banned corporal punishment.

(Source : World of Facts)

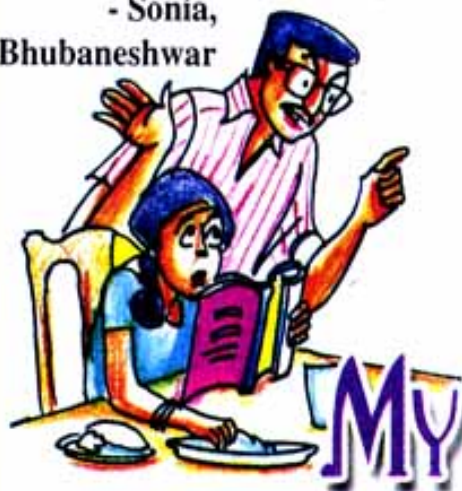
**- A.Anees Fatima,
Std.XI, Uthamapalayam,
Tamil Nadu**



Dear Grandma,

I love reading story books but I can't find the time. My father gets angry if I read during meal time. My mother never allows me to ride my bicycle to go anywhere. She thinks I'm a very bad girl and that I may run away someday! She beats me often. Please help.

- Sonia,
Bhubaneswar



Dear Sonia,

Before accusing your parents please ask yourself, if you have been a good girl. It is easy to accuse others but difficult to accept one's own faults. Reading a story book while eating is not good for you. You'll have to find time for reading by adjusting your daily routine and by avoiding waste of time. You can do it if you apply your mind with determination. As for your mother not allowing you to ride your bicycle, she's probably

worried about your safety. Talk to her often and try to understand her better. Bitterness is almost always a result of lack of understanding.

I begin studying at 7 pm every day but by 9 pm I feel sleepy and my father scolds me. How am I to avoid sleeping?

- A.G. Pallavi, Bellary

Dear Pallavi,

It is natural and normal for a healthy young girl to feel sleepy at 9 pm especially if she has exercised well. So don't worry. You need seven to eight hours of sound sleep. Your father scolds you, not for

MOM THINK'S



sleeping but for not studying as much as you should. Adjust your

daily schedule in such a way that you find enough time to study. If you score good marks, your father will have no reason to scold you. Instead he'll feel proud of you.

★★★

I dream of being a writer. What skills do I require?

- Keerthana Sharma, Pune



I'M A BAD GIRL!

Dear Keerthana,

Writing requires several skills, like command over language, simplicity, clarity and above all proper understanding of the subject you wish to write about. If fiction, you require additional skills like imagination, observation of the realities of life, ability for characterization and the art of developing the story through natural conversation besides narration. The only way to acquire these skills is to read what other successful authors have writ-



GRANDMA WORM

ten and learn from them.

★★★

How can I avoid stage fright?

- Anjana Gayathri,
Chennai

I speak fluently among friends. But when I meet new faces I clam up. How am I to overcome this defect?

- Anees Fathima,
Bodinayakkanur

Dear Anjana and
Anees,

Stage fright and inability to converse with persons unfamiliar to you, arise out of lack of self confidence and a bit of inferiority complex. Stage fright



can be over come with practise and in-depth study of the subject on which you wish to speak. Prepare your speech and revise it. Sprinkle a little humour. Your audience will love you for your speech! As for conversing with newly introduced persons you can easily begin by asking questions about where they live and what their profession or course of study is. People love to talk about themselves and if you show a little interest in their activities they'll feel happy and become your good friends.



★★★

There is a girl in my class who is mean. She talks about me behind my back and hates me for some reason which she will not divulge. When I try to talk to her she says, "Stop bothering me!" I can't talk to my teacher about this since I'll be considered a sneak. I shut myself in the bathroom and cry!

- Sathya Baskaran,
Sanjose, USA

★★★

We were very best friends in

our old school. But when I saw her in the new school which I have joined, she didn't talk or even smile! I feel very sad. Please help!

- S.Varsha, Mayiladuthurai

Dear Sathya and Varsha,

The problem that both of you face is really a complex one and since I do not know much about the

girls you mention, it is difficult to advise. However I would suggest that both of you gather courage and not feel miserable about their behaviour towards you. As long as you

don't have any ill will towards them you need not worry. Both of you can try an experiment. Give a flower to your 'would be' friend as a token of good will, smile and move away. Wait for a response. If they don't reciprocate, may be you can talk to your parents and ask them to take up the matter with their parents. A little bit of understanding on both sides will pave the way for lasting friendship. Good luck.

Love,
Grandmaworm

The recently concluded Para Olympics bore testimony to the fact that the differently-abled are indeed a strong tribe of enthusiasts.

The Origin of Para Olympics

Towards the end of the Second World War, a sports event was held to cheer up the wounded soldiers. A doctor named Sir Ludwig Guttmann

cludes ice sledge hockey, swimming, power-lifting, cross country skiing, athletics, Alpine skiing and shooting. – A formidable list, it would seem to us – but games in which the differently-abled participate with not only enthusiasm but a great deal of awesome talent!

SPORTS



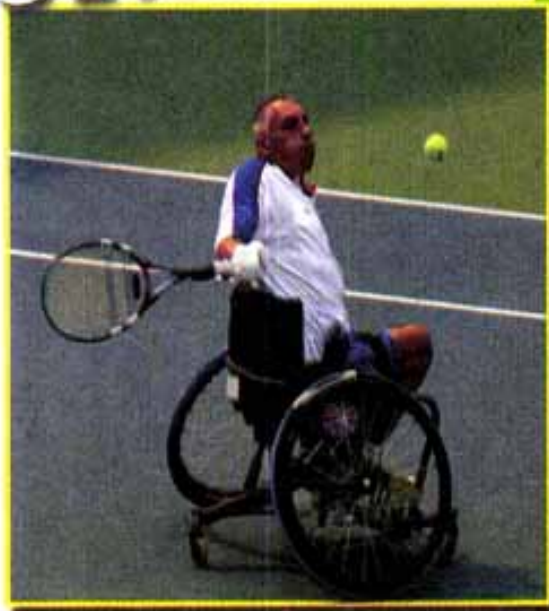
S.N. KANNAN



A VERY SPECIAL OLYMPICS!

conceived and conducted this event. Called 'Games for the Paralysed', it was held soon after the London Olympics (1948).

This special games festival became an official international event in 1960, when it was held in Rome. Four hundred 'warriors' in wheel-chairs participated. Slowly, the number of games and events were increased and the list today in-



The Meaning of Para

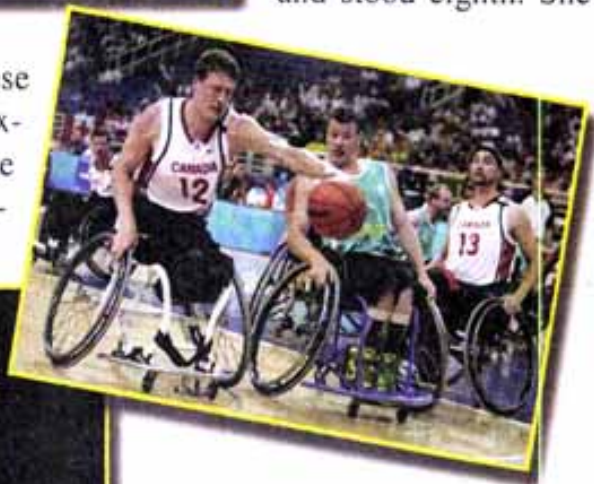
Para Olympics does not mean games for the paralysed or paraplegic...; it actually stands for 'parallel' – an event that runs alongside the main one.

Those with hearing impairment are not a part of the Para Olympics. These sportsmen participate in an exclusive tournament called the Deaflympics. The forthcoming Deaflympics is scheduled



to be held in Australia in January 2009. The age of the participants ranges from eleven to 66!

Marla Runyan, a visually challenged athlete, was a part of both the mainstream and the Para Olympics. She ran the 1500 metre race at the Sydney Olympics and stood eighth. She



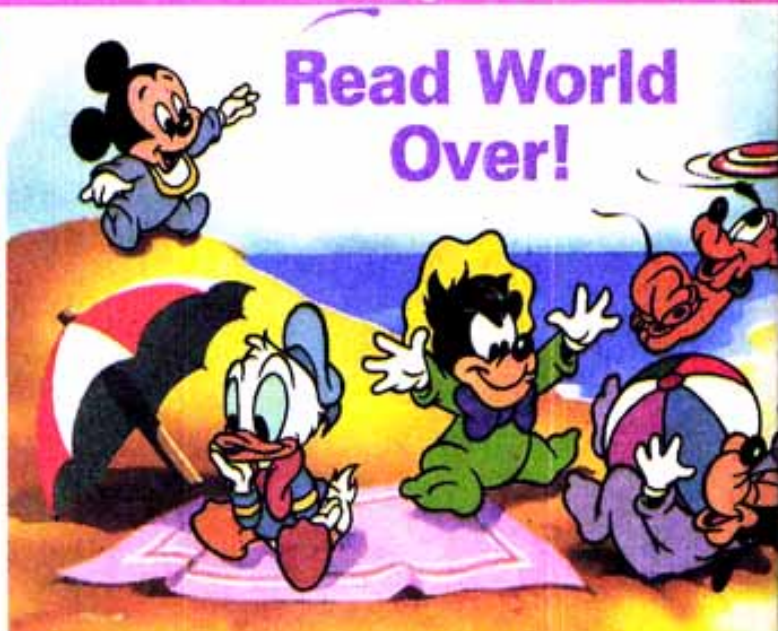
also bagged four medals at the Para Olympics.

It is customary for the country that hosts the mainstream Olympics, to conduct the Para Olympics too. China which hosted the Para Olympics this year, was on top of the medals list at the Athens Para Olympics of 2004. An estimated 8.7crore Chinese are said to be differently-abled!

GOKULAM

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To
Children!



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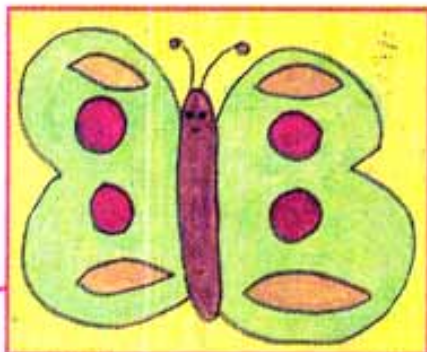
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CATHERINE DAVID,
Std. VII, Cathedral High School,
Bengalooru.



Tick against the relevant answers and finally check your scores. You will know what kind of a person you are..

What do you take with your glass of morning milk?

- a) Chocolate and cookies
- b) Fruit syrup
- c) Cornflakes and nuts

How would you like to have your rotis and chappathis?

- a) As stuffed parathas with curd and pickle
- b) With butter and/or jam
- c) As a roll with paneer or egg bhurji

An ice cream topping of your choice would be..?

- a) Waffle/wafer
- b) Fresh cut fruits
- c) Crushed chocolate brownies

How would you like to eat your rice?

- a) As vegetable pulao with curd or raitha
- b) With dhal, curry, and pappad
- c) In the form of idli or dosa with chutney and pickle

Bread would taste great with...

- a) Tomato and cucumber
- b) Jam and jelly
- c) Omlette

**YOU ARE
WHAT YOU EAT**

Your scores :

Mostly 'a's : People are bowled over by your style when it comes to food. Bland food is a strict 'no no' for you and you love to spice up things...be it your food or the stories you tell! The flavour you are : Spicy



and stylish!

Mostly 'b's : Instinct is your favourite ingredient. You don't like to go by the book and would rather make the best combo of whatever is available. The flavour you are : Fruity and nutty!

Mostly 'c's : Bravo! You'll go far. You are strong-willed and know exactly what you want. You will go to any length to get that perfect combination. The flavour you are :

Sweet and smart!

And finally, now that you've read it all.. take it with a LARGE PINCH OF SALT!

**- Chanda Rani, Std.X,
K.V., O.N.G.C,
Panvel**



- People who have eaten bananas recently, attract mosquitoes easily!

- France is the only country to be completely rid of mosquitoes.

- For every human being in the world, there are two million mosquitoes!

- A single brown bat can destroy 10,000 mosquitoes in an hour.

- More people have been killed by deadly diseases caused by mosquitoes, than by earth quake.

- A. Aswin Vayiravan,
StdX, T.V.S.M.H.S.S

- All cats born in Thailand are white.

- When a hippo gets excited, its perspiration turns red.

- The crow is the cleverest of all birds.

- Ants can pull weights three hundred times their own weight.

- A termite queen can produce over thirty thousand eggs in a day.

- Srishti Mishra,
Std X, N.D.M. School, Hospet.

- There are 20,000 different



BIRDS, BEASTS



• Anables

- Some insects can live for a year after their heads have been cut!

types of bees.

- A honey bee's wings beat at the rate of 11,400 times a minute!

- Honey bees visit five million flowers to make one kilo of honey.

- Bees fly a distance of about five times the circumference of the earth, in their honey-collection effort.

- Some people are allergic to bee stings which can even be fatal. In 1962, at Rhodesia, Johanre Relleke was stung 2,243 times by wild bees, but survived!

- Queen bees lay as much as two to three thousand eggs a day and

up to 200,000 eggs a year.

- T.Priyadarshini, Std.IV,
St.Joseph's Convent Anglo
Indian H.S.S, Coonoor.



SNIPPETS

● The ice that covers Antarctica is 4,776 inches deep at its thickest point.

● A cheetah can accelerate from zero to 72 kmph in just two seconds.

● The tallest tree ever was an Australian eucalyptus which measured 132 m in 1872.

● A hippopotamus can open its

jaws to an angle of 150° - almost to a straight line.

● There are an estimated 8 million bolts of lightning worldwide every day.

● The anables is a fish that has two eyes in each eyeball.

● Snakes smell with their tongues.

- C.R. Vishnu, Std. IX,
Vana Vani Mat.Hr.Sec.School,
Chennai

AND BEES!



MAKE IT YOURSELF



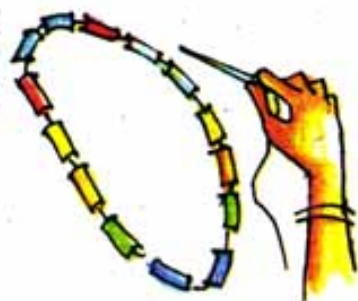
Materials :

Old glossy magazines, Glue, Scissors, Thread, Needle

Method : Remove magazine pages separately and cut each one into strips. Roll each strip tightly, using glue to bind the layers securely. Try to get an oval or rounded shape out of each strip. Make several such 'beads' and keep them aside. Finally, thread the needle and string the paper beads into a length which will fit nicely around your neck. Tie up both the ends of the thread into a bow knot and your chain is ready. Wear it along with casual attire. It's fun to make and inexpensive. You can wear it without fear of losing it! You could make matching bracelets in the same method.

- P.Nandini, Std.VII, The Adarsh Vidyalaya
M.H.S.S., Chennai

PAPER JEWELLERY!



Aryabhatta was an astronomer. He was born in Pataliputra in 476 BC (modern Patna). Some believe that he was born in Kerala and migrated north to the Gupta Kingdom. He studied at the university of Nalanda. He was honoured by the then Gupta ruler Buddhagupta and was appointed the head of the university.

Aryabhatta gave the value of π (pi) as 3.14159. He was the first to deduce that the earth is round and that it rotates on its own axis, creating day and night. He also declared that the moon is dark and shines only because of sunlight. He was convinced that the

various aspects of mathematics and astronomical calculations. He wrote one more treatise 'Aryabhatta Siddhanta' which was a guide to determine auspicious times for various rituals. He could be labelled the father of Indian astronomy. India's first satellite was named 'Aryabhatta'.

(Source : 100 Famous Scientists)

- E.Catherine Praveena,
Std.VII, St. Michael's Academy,
Chennai

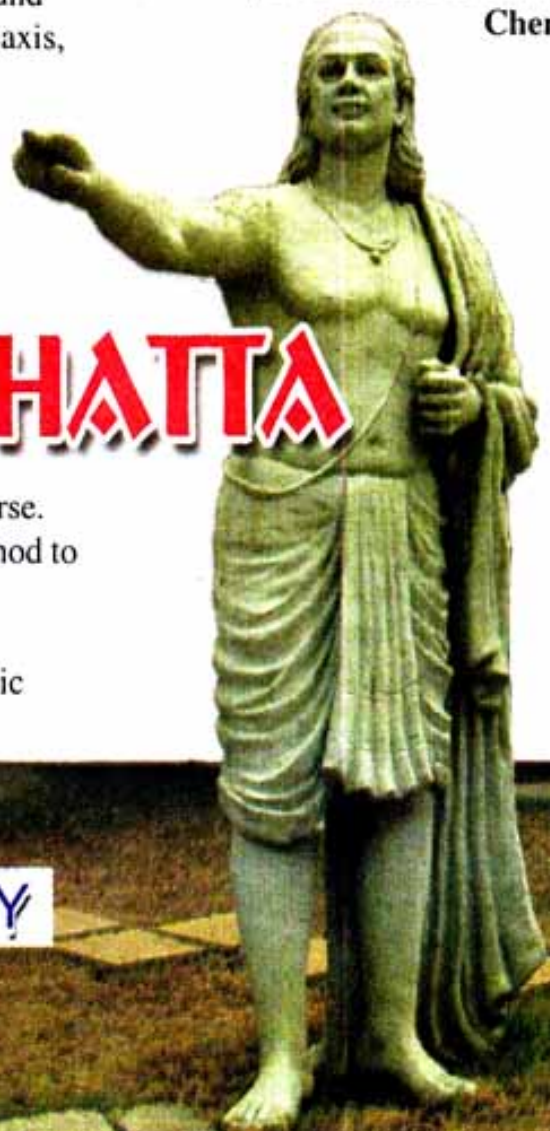
ARYABHATTA

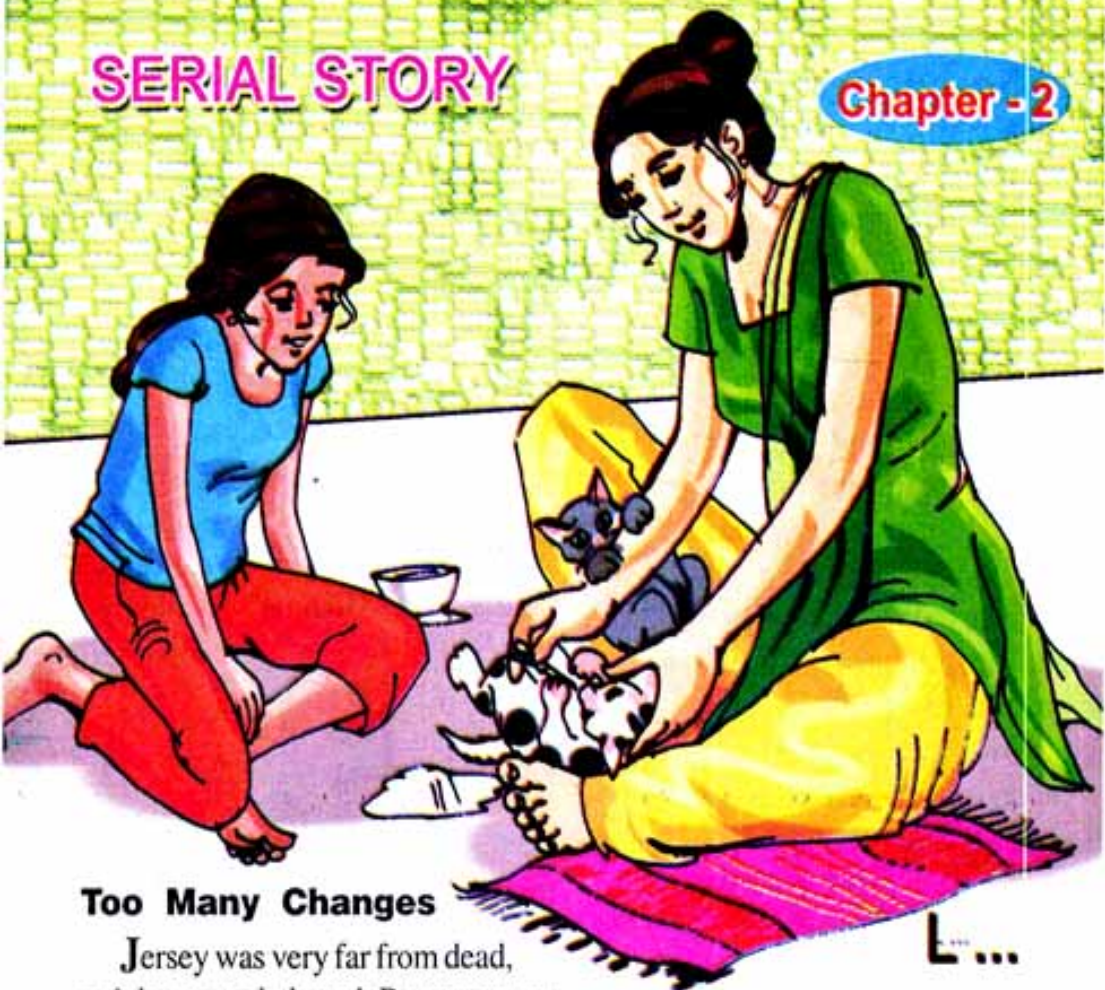
earth was centre of the universe.

Aryabhatta devised a method to express big numbers like 100,000,000 in words.

Aryabhatta's legendary epic 'Aryabhatiya' deals with the

PERSONALITY





Too Many Changes

Jersey was very far from dead, as it happened, though Peppy was so terrified that she simply wouldn't believe it. The white kitten was so still and lifeless that the girl almost gave her up for dead. It was Mamma who guessed that they were probably exhausted as they hadn't been fed all day.

"Kittens this young eat at least every two hours, you know", said Mamma, who had raised them in her childhood, and remembered the experience. "And now that there's no mother, we'll have to feed them."

PAVITHRA SRINIVASAN

"But how?" asked Peppy. "We can't pour the milk in cups or saucers - they can't drink."

"You do know how human babies are fed, don't you? Well, we just need to do the same with some adjustments."

Leaving Peppy to wonder at 'adjustments', Mamma swept into Peppy's room and her work-desk. "Oh, would you just look at this mess", she mumbled, searching amidst a pile of pens, books, geometry boxes and chart-sheets. Then she pounced on something with a

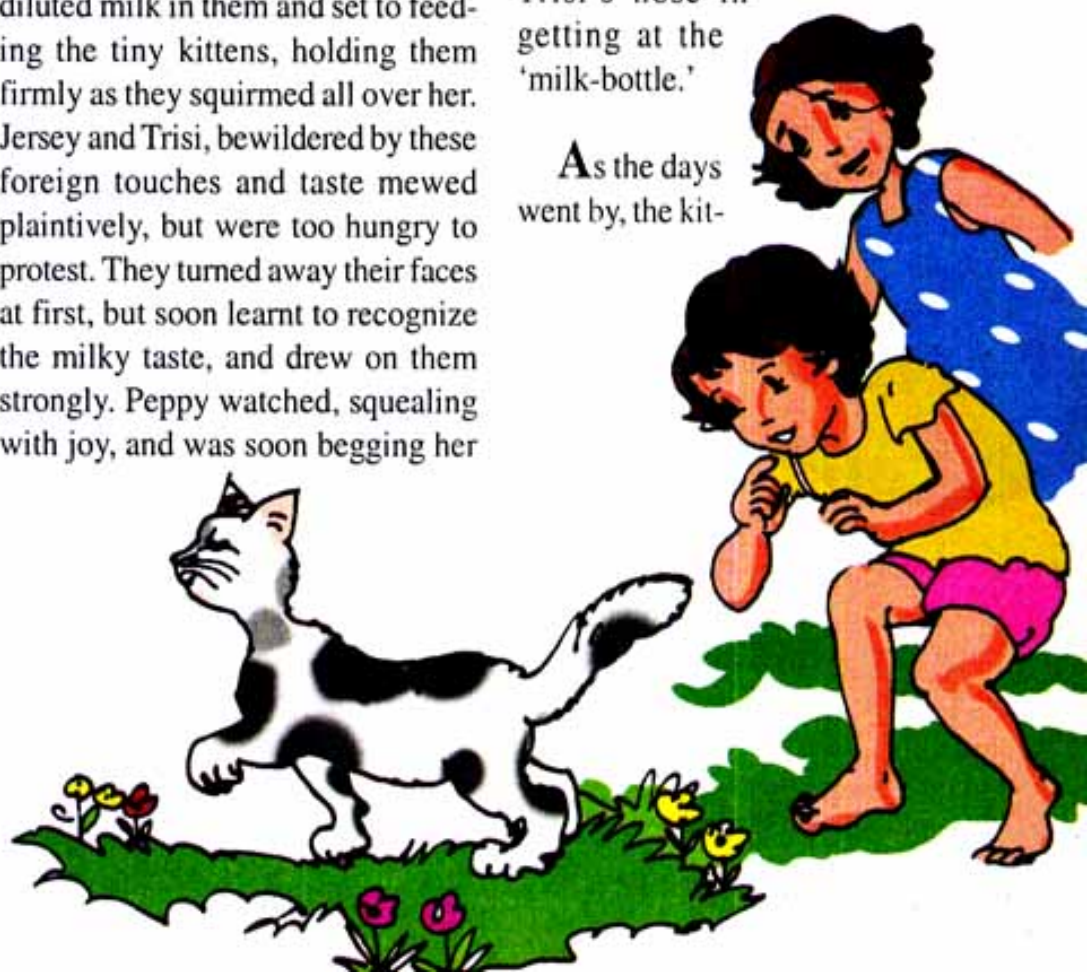
CA(ugh)T IN THE CITY!

cry of triumph. "Ah, here they are!"

"They" turned out to be two plastic ink-fillers. Peppy, in Std. VII, used ink pens, and had a quantity of fillers lying about. Mamma drew some diluted milk in them and set to feeding the tiny kittens, holding them firmly as they squirmed all over her. Jersey and Trisi, bewildered by these foreign touches and taste mewed plaintively, but were too hungry to protest. They turned away their faces at first, but soon learnt to recognize the milky taste, and drew on them strongly. Peppy watched, squealing with joy, and was soon begging her

mother for her own chance to feed them. She spilt more milk than went into the kittens' mouth, but eventually managed to master it. Jersey was especially frisky, often pushing away Trisi's nose in getting at the 'milk-bottle.'

As the days went by, the kit-



tens grew stronger. Black eyes impossibly large, they stared at their surroundings, often too scared to venture beyond Peppy's lap. It became a habit for her to leave for school waving them goodbye, and greet them the first thing she entered home after school. Dad began to buy one more litre of milk, and enquired anxiously each meal time if they'd drunk their fill.

Soon, Jersey and Trisi began to explore more than the cardboard

Dad's newspaper, eager to sniff his nose and tear the paper into shreds. Ran in and out of Mamma's legs, making her trip a dozen times each morning. Climbed over all the sacks in the kitchen, scattering rice over the floor. Battled each other playfully, scampering all over the rooms. But their favourite was obviously Peppy, who fed them religiously morning and night, wiped away their wastes, gave them medicine when they were sick, and let them snooze in her lap for as long as they chose.



Jersey was easily the neighbourhood's favourite: a fluffy, white little fur-ball that rolled about in play. Everybody wanted to pick her up, and she seemed to understand that she was much sought after: there was always a haughty jaunt in her walk and she rarely let anyone hold her for long. Catfights with other cats were non-existent - she was the reigning queen and she knew it. On the other hand, she didn't seem to be 'smart', as Peppy termed it. She seldom answered calls, didn't seem to understand when food was served - and never liked to be petted long, even by Peppy. She never mewed ex-

boxes they slept in, each night. They ran across switchboards and plug-points, making Mamma shriek in terror. They frisked across beds and pillows, tangling the sheets. Bounded across sofas and cushions, making mayhem. Clambered up

cept when she was extremely hungry, and though Peppy claimed this was because she was very well fed, Mamma couldn't help commenting on it. And there was the time she almost died of starvation because she simply lay in a corner until she grew weaker and weaker - and a horrified Peppy brought her back to life by coaxing glucose into her.

Trisi, on the other hand, was one of the most 'talkative' kittens any of them had ever seen. A weakling at first, somewhere along the way the kitten had grown into a plump little round-barreled being... which was when they discovered that the 'she' was actually a 'he' - Trisi was a male. Peppy giggled over this mistake until she gleefully renamed him Gundappa Viswanath - GV, for short. And GV proved to be a remarkably interesting being. For one thing, he had a complete vocabulary - his snorts, mews and cries were each different, and when Peppy petted him, he produced a wonderful purring noise that was like



a rice-mill running.

GV had very definite likes and dislikes, unlike Jersey who generally ate everything on her plate. He hated old milk, for instance, but loved ghee-rice, piping hot. He was fond of eggs and Good Day biscuits, but wouldn't touch a cockroach unless he was gnawed by hunger. Usually, he preferred to play with it, flipping it with his plump paws. And then he

invariably brought the half-dead insect as a loving gift to Peppy, who ran away shrieking. GV never could understand this horror of what he evidently thought was this present, and would look at her mournfully.

He was immensely pettable, and generally curled himself comfortably with anyone - but with Peppy, most of all. She was his "Mamma", and

could do anything she pleased, with him. Peppy vowed that he was better than any teddy-bear she had ever had - he was so soft and cuddly

Before long, it was two months since the kittens had come. Then it was four - then six. By now, the kittens - no longer tiny - had found their place among the dense population.



* K. Gayathri



* R. Priyanka



* Akshayarka



* Anangshaa

K. Gayathri celebrates her 14th birthday on 1st October.

May you lead a healthy and successful life!

- Mom, Dad, Karthik (brother), Grandma, Uncle, Aunt and Vignesh

may he score good marks in his board exam (Xth).

- Dad, Mum and Vicky (brother)

Our daughter Anangshaa Alamnyan celebrates her birthday on 14th October.

*May many goals beckon you,
May all your dreams come true!*

- Mom and Dad

N. Manaasa celebrates her 11th birthday on 7th October.

Happy birthday to our dear Maanasa!

- Thatha, Patti, Amma, and Appa

J. Vishnu turns 15 on 8th.

We wish him a very very happy birthday and

Kirtana Sharma celebrates her birthday on 15th October.

We wish her success in all her endeavours.

- Appa, Amma, Chithappa and brother

J. Blessina Pauline celebrates her tenth birthday on 15th.



But then, suddenly, Dad threw a bombshell in their midst - they were to move house.



"Cats are loyal to a place, you know, not persons", Mamma said, when she disclosed the news to a stupefied Peppy. "So you can't expect Jersey and Trisi to come

with us or be happy. They would be miserable, away from the home they know and love. I'm afraid we must leave them

here, Peppy."

What was poor Peppy to do?

(To be continued)



* N. Maanasa



* J. Blessina Pauline



* Kirtana Sharma



* J. Vishnu

May God bless you richly. Wish you a blessed birthday!

- Parents and Grandparents

20th October is **G. Nithya's** birthday.

We the students of class X wish her a Happy Birthday and success in all her endeavours. All the best for the Board exams!

- Susie, Saba, Hindu, Gayu, Sumi, Bornadette, Afra, Thilaga, Bhumi and Meenu

Our son **Akshayarka Alammyan Deka** celebrates his birthday on the 25th.

Many happy returns of the day! May you reach so high, that the stars become your friends!

- Mom and Dad

On 29th October, **R. Priyanka** turns 16!
*Many more happy returns of the day.
May all your dreams come true.*

- Mom, Nive, Hari and Friends

My sweet, only sister **Akhilandeswari** steps into her 14th year on 30th.

May her life be peaceful, happy and may the royal hues of the rainbow add colour to her life.

- Brother Ravi
(Mom and Dad too!)

Ritesh J. Bhattad turns eight on 25th October and his brother **Akshay. J Bhattad** completes 14 on 12th the same month!

May all blessings befall the brothers.

- Parents and friends

Budding Bards

Every night I linger
 in a fancy dream
 Like a lovely fish in a
 pleasant stream
 I see Alladin and his
 lamp bright
 I also see Sindbad put up a fight!
 I watch the sunbeams perform
 a dance
 They shimmer, they glow and
 daintily prance
 Suddenly I feel the bitter
 bitter cold
 And the mighty wind so
 unkindly bold!
 But I sing, I dance, I enjoy in
 my dream
 As I would from movies many
 a splendid scene



LOST IN MY DREAMS

Surely my dream world is happier
 than reality
 Almost as good as a big University!
 - T.E.L. Kesava Reddy,
 Std.X, A.E.C. School, OSCOM

Me is I and I am Me.
 Me and I are Me!



I and Me!

Me and I both live together
 As would sister and a brother
 I lives in me and me lives in I
 I has the same qualities as Me
 And Me has the same face as I
 I is as good as Me in studies
 And Me is as good as I with books!
 Me likes I and I likes me
 I and Me are I and
 Me and I are Me!
 Though it may not be grammatical,
 It is the truth you see!

- Darshana. N. Dawda, Std.X, Shrine
 Vailankanni English School, Thane

Give me light of hope
 In times of trial
 Give me courage to face
 Circumstances of danger
 Give me patience to bear
 Taunting and provocation
 Give me a safe path
 To tread when I am lonely
 Give me a companion
 To share fun and frolic
 Give me the wisdom
 To be grateful for Life
 Give me the grace
 Never to cheat or harm
 Give me always
 Your outstretched arm!

- Pratikshya Mishra,
 Std.IX, K.V., Sambalpur



I love my school
 It looks beautiful
 Classes full of girls and boys
 Six days full of joy
 Shady trees and garden green
 Flowers too can be seen
 Friends so good they are a treat
 Teachers too are really sweet

Our principal is strict but caring
 He speaks to us with understanding
 My school imparts sound knowledge
 It makes me brave and wise
 Ask my friends and they'll say too
 "It's really really nice!"



MY school

- Soumyaranjan Behera,
 Std.IX, A.E.C.S., OSCOM,
 Orissa



What is stress..? It is simply the body's non-specific response to any demand made on it.

While a safe amount of stress is necessary for human performance and efficiency, an overdose of it can lead to physical, emotional and psychological complications.

In today's demanding world, 'performance' has become a mighty word, and every individual is under stress to constantly prove himself or herself and also consistently show improvement. In the process we often take on much more than we can manage and buckle under stress or just fret more than is necessary over insignificant or minor issues.

While we need to develop a fine sense of judgement and balance towards our individual priorities, we also need to follow some stress-busting methods to help us stay cool.

Here are some suggestions for Gokulam readers:

1. Structure each day to include

Stress

a minimum of 20 minutes of aerobics or some other brisk exercise of your choice.

2. Eat well-balanced meals that include whole and sprouted grain, fruits and veggies.

3. Don't take too much of sugar or sweets. The tendency is to reach for a chocolate when under pressure. Resist. Don't reach for coffee or tea either.

4. When challenged in situation that puts up your stress, take a few minutes to get away from the scene and 'sort yourself out' before returning to it. Words of auto suggestion, like 'I can do it' or 'It's not that hard' will help a great deal. Keep telling these to yourself.



Look into Yourself!

5. Spend at least one hour each day to relax, doing your favourite things or just day-dreaming

6. Nothing like a cool (hot if you prefer it that way) shower to put that zing back into you.

7. Music is the best bet - listen to soothing or elevating music to calm you.

8. Get in touch! Hug someone you love, hold a friend's hand, fondle your pet dog or cat, work on wet soil in the garden, allowing the dirt to smear you..Yes, it will help like nothing does!

- S.Lakshmipriya, Std.XII,
Vijayantha Model Higher
Secondary School, Chennai



Management

Name : A.G. Vasavi

Age : 17

Address : H.No.9-3-638, Regimental Bazaar, Secundrabad - 500 025

Hobbies : Reading magazines and novels, listening to music, watching TV.

Name : J.S.Jayanth Kingston

Age : 11

Address : 21-A, Vani Street, Alagikulam, Keelavasal, Thanjavur



Browse Here

Hobbies : Painting, playing football and cricket, cycling, watching TV.

Name : Roshmi L.Garam

Age : 13

Address : C/o Principal, VKV Nivedita Vihar (girls Hostel), Seijosa (Po), East Kameng Dt. - 790 103, Arunachal Pradesh.

Hobbies : Collecting cards of different occasions, photography, painting reading, listening music, watching movies.

Name : Priyanka Priyadarshini Roy

Age : 13

Address : C/o Prashant Kumar Roy, Q.No.B/6, IRE Housing Colony, Matikhalo, Chatrapur (Ganjam), Orissa - 761 045

Hobbies : Dancing, singing, listening to music, painting, chatting, watching, shopping, cycling.

Name : Raveena Jayaraman

Age : 10

Address : Valley Towers, Near Eden woods, Mumbai

Hobbies : Playing video games, reading books, playing chess and

badminton, watching movies.

Name : Muskaan Rawat

Age : 13

Address : S-31A, Opp. Railway Hospital, Col-2, Railway Station, Pathankot, Punjab - 145 001

Hobbies : Gardening, reading classic novels, listening to music, painting and cooking.

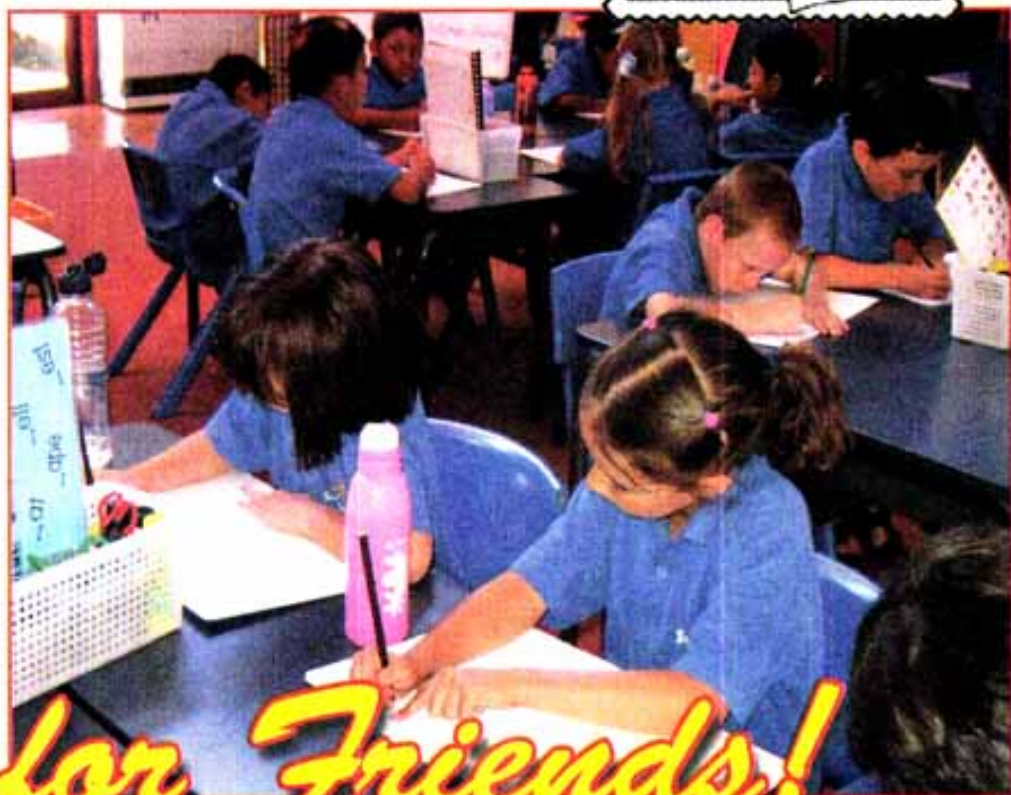
Name : Akshay J.Bhattad

Age : 13

**Address : C/o Jaipraloash Bhattad,
Gandhi Chowk, Wadi (Jn) - 585 225**

**Hobbies : Reading, collecting
stamps and coins; surfing the internet
and dancing.**

PENPALS



for Friends!

Name: Ashlin Rudhika. Antas

Age : 14

**Address : Adiband, Murida
Cuncolim Salcette, Goa.**

**Hobbies: Listening to music,
singing, dancing and making good
and new friends.**

Age : 12

**Address : D/o IM. Ravindranath,
Manager, Computer Section,
Pragathi-Gramina Bank, Sangankal
Road, Bellary (Karnataka).**

**Hobbies : Reading Gokulam,
collecting photos of different places,
dancing, reading novels, stories
etc.**

Name : IM. Neelima

A Monkey in Mother's Kitchen!

When the Desais moved into their sprawling new house, everything went well except for the trouble caused by the monkeys.

First they raided the garden and ate all the mangoes and guavas. Then they leapt from branch to branch destroying many a tender sapling. After that they went chasing little Shilpa and her friends, who were busy setting up their doll house in the courtyard. And finally, one cheeky fellow dared to enter the house!

This happened one morning, when Mrs.Desai was busy spreading dosa batter over the hot tawa. She had her back turned towards the kitchen door.

"Shilpa, come quickly and have the dosas while they are still hot" she yelled, not bothering to notice the red faced monkey who had already made his majestic appearance into her kitchen instead. It was only when the langur jumped on to the platform next to her plate of dosas, did

Mrs.Desai turn to stone! She gaped with horror, her privileged guest without hesitation helped himself to a plate of hot dosas with ghee and chutney.

Meantime, Shilpa came along, hopping her way through towards the kitchen. The moment she spotted the monkey next to her mother, instead of screeching, the smart girl quietly slipped out and ran to fetch her father.

Mr.Desai immediately got to action. He picked a banana, from the fruit basket and flung it right at the monkey. The ape caught his favourite fruit deftly and began looking around for more. Mr.Desai now began flinging one banana after another outside the door, right into the courtyard, so that the langur left his wife's dosas in the kitchen and ran after the fruits instead. Once the monkey was outside the house. Mr. Desai shut the door and the entire family watched the starved animal gobble up the fruit.

"Poor fellow!" Mr. Desai pointed out. "It is we humans who are to be blamed for this."

"We have robbed the innocent creatures of their natural habitat" he added in pity. "They have no more forests or fruit trees left for them. All

everyday." The father-daughter-duo came to a decision as they silently watched the satisfied beast trail over to the garden - tap and cup his palm beneath it to sip some cold water. He then turned around, jeered his jaws wide and sprang away, leaping from



they can do, is attack our gardens and steal from our kitchens to survive."

"Poor fellow!" A tearful Shilpa agreed with her father, forgiving the beast for all the menace he had caused to her doll house play.

"Let's provide him with more bananas", she suggested.

"Yes, we'll give him bananas

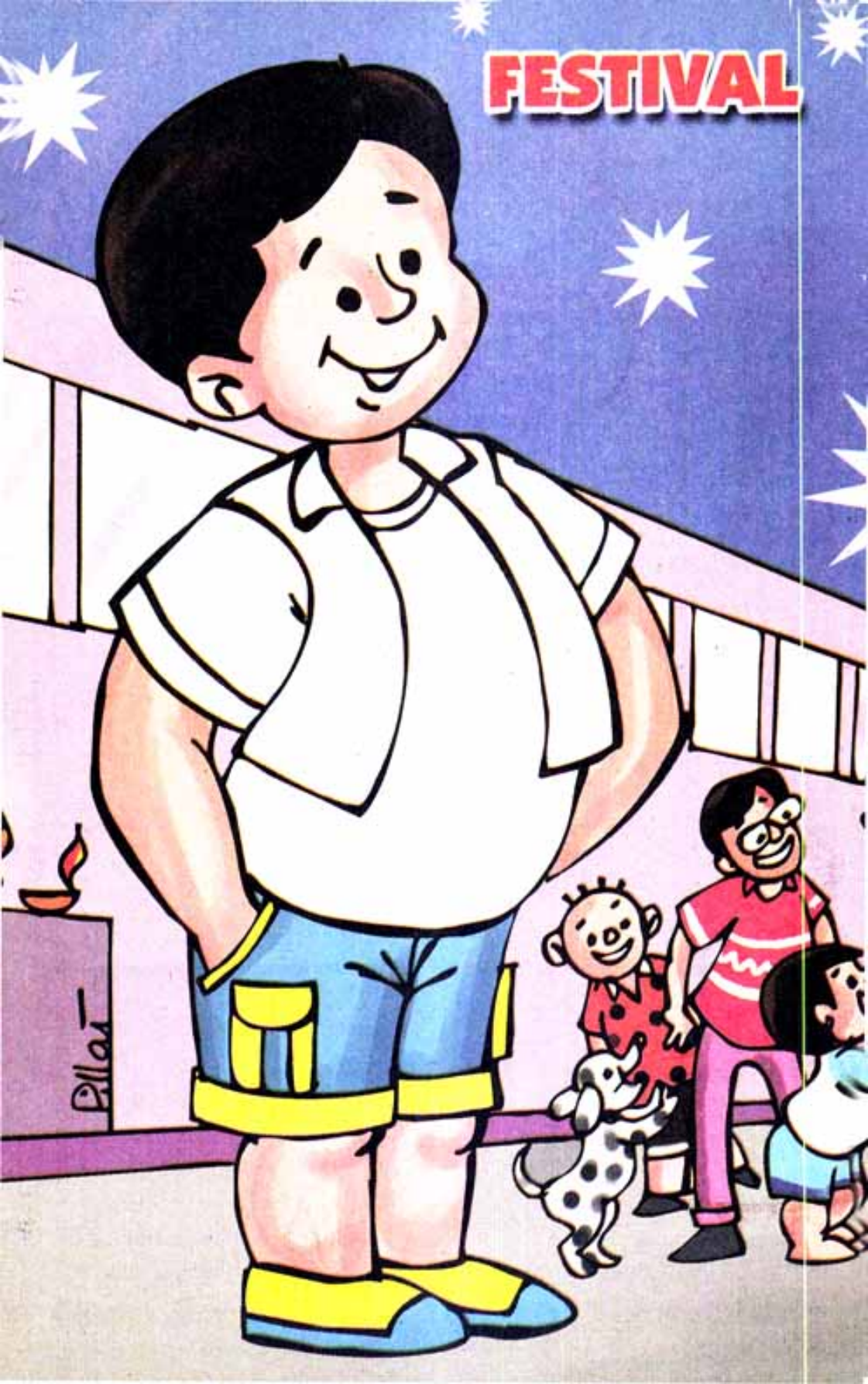
Geeta Canpadee

tree to tree.

Shilpa then opened the door and ran out into the neighbourhood to tell her friends about the Monkey in her mother's kitchen.

Value : Don't cut down trees. Forests are home to so many animals.

FESTIVAL



Greetings for the festival season
to all Gokulam readers! Do your best to
liven up Rahul's shirt in this lovely centre spread,
pull out the pages carefully and send in your
work with the coupon filled up to Gokulam,
47, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Chennai 600 032, before
20th October. The best three entries will win rupees
hundred each.

My Name : Class :

School :

Residential address :



COMPETITION



It was in October 07 that my first contribution was published in Gokulam. I was thrilled to see it in print. And now I am dumbstruck at being selected the chief contributor of the year. I did work hard to send a lot of contributions over one year. Gokulam has changed my life very much. It has introduced me to a new world of creativity and knowledge. I suggest to all Gokulam readers to write more and more to Gokulam.

**- J.Vishnu, StdX,
Siksha Kendra M.H.S.S,
Vellore**

I finish reading Gokulam in half an hour. I wish it could be a daily magazine. Why don't you increase



the range of contents so that children of all ages can participate in the competitions?

**- K.Manasvini Bhat, Std.V,
Sindhi School, Bengalooru.**

I was waiting for Gokulam to



arrive and it arrived with lots of happiness in store for me, yes, I won a Ramayana Book as a prize in the 'Guess Who' competition. Gokulam has given me some of the best moments in my life.

**- Sarbani Chakraborty,
Std.VII, K.V., Port Blair.**

When I visited my niece in Chennai, she gave me lots of Gokulam issues to read. I was surprised and very pleased that this magazine is interesting to both

Gokulam

children and adults.

- Sita Narayan, Bengalooru

*In Gokulam, my best friend
Stories of joy and fun never end!
I wait with joyful anticipation for
each issue, and in between*

Oh, my Gokulam!

How I miss you!

I read your pages night and day

My precious Gokulams

I'll never give away!

- Bhavani Sankaralingam,

Std. IV, Indian Fields

Elementary School, New Jersey.

Hello Gokulam,

It is a prestige to be your reader. The view point section is simply superb and we are not only able to express ourselves but also able to know what others think about a particular issue.

- Manoj Ravi, Age 15,

Chennai - 9

I am very impressed with your magazine. My elder sister used to be an avid reader of Gokulam. This inspired me to read too. Each article is as good as another and I love

All the Way!

reading every page.

- Ayesha M. Surendar, Std. VI,

Y. L. H.S, Mumbai

I keep sending my contributions to Gokulam but they have never been published. Still, I keep writing. I love



LETTER BOX

to read the magazine and also to write for it.

- Sonia Samantaray, Std. VII,

St. Joseph's High School,

Bhubaneswar.

I am a new reader of Gokulam. Twinkle twinkle little star, Gokulam is my super star!

- C.S.M. Vevetha, Std. IX,

BHEL School, Ranipet.

I want to ask the editor – do we get participation certificates for writing to letter box?

- Deepali Parab, Std. VIII,

Deepvihar School, Vasco, Goa.

(No, Deepali, no participation certificates are sent for mails to letter box. – Editor)



Gold for a Song!

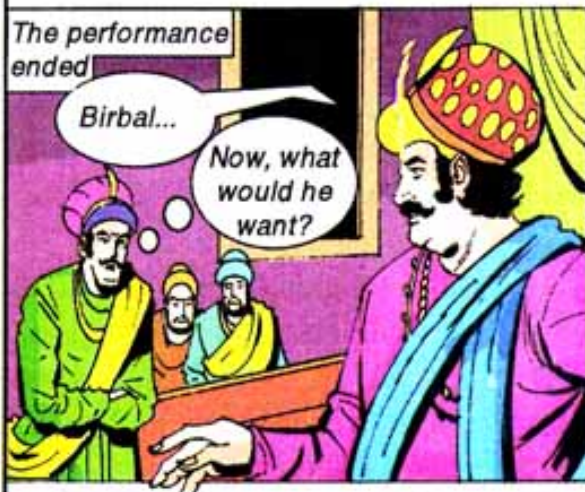
Ibnu Jamal was a singer in Akbar's court.



The performance ended

Birbal...

Now, what would he want?



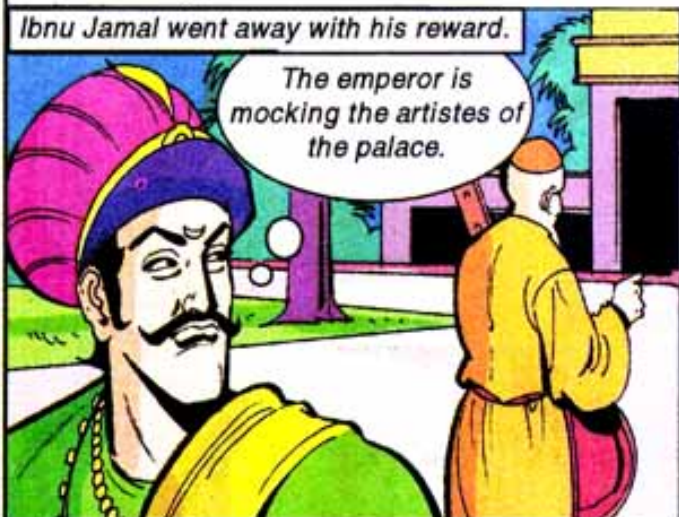
Give him a hundred gold coins.

Oh, no!
Just as I expected.



Ibnu Jamal went away with his reward.

The emperor is
mocking the artists of
the palace.



However well Ibnu sings,
he gets only copper coins.
Outsiders get gold coins
for singing praises.



One day a singer named Tiruvenkiti came-

Long live the emperor.

Yes...

A lover of art like you is a gift
for the kingdom.

Oh!

This fellow is bound
to get five hundred gold
coins for this.

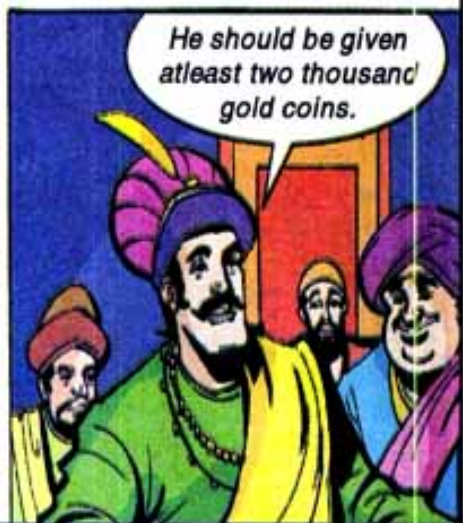
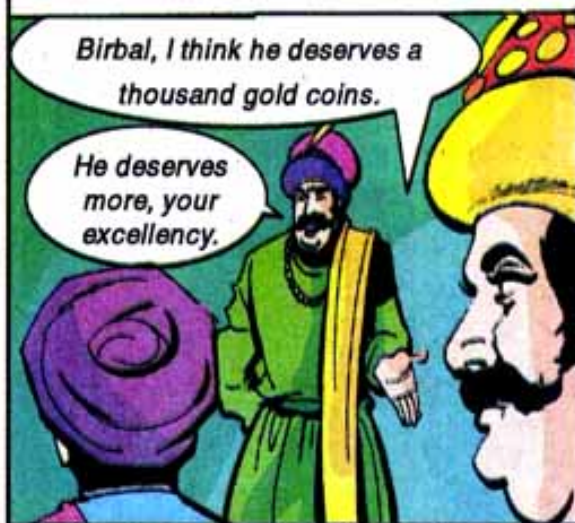
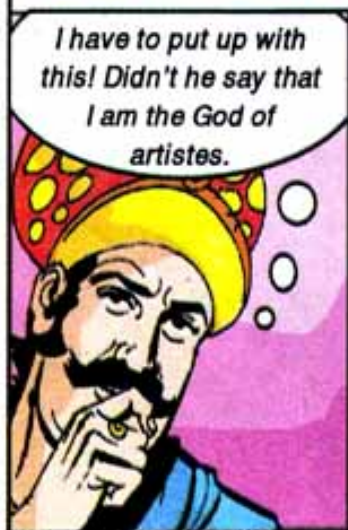
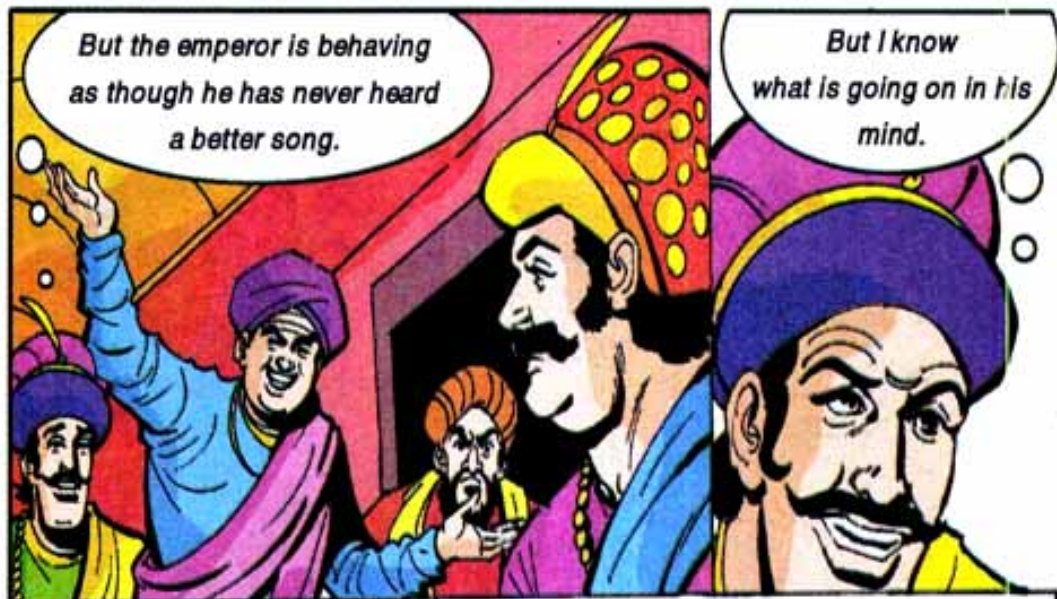
You are truly a God
to poor artistes
like me.

Cunning
chap!

Now he may get a thousand
gold coins!

Tiruvenkiti began to sing.

What a
horrible
voice!





How kind
Birbal is!

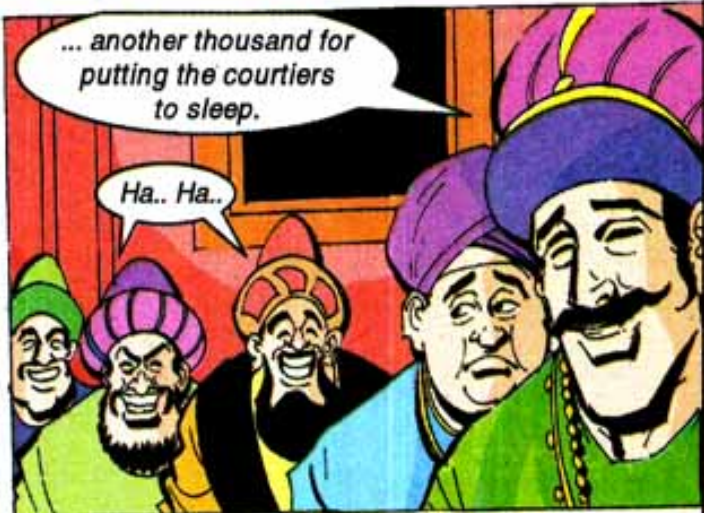


Birbal, why should it be
two thousand gold coins?

He means
something
else.



A thousand coins
for entertaining
you...



... another thousand for
putting the courtiers
to sleep.

Ha.. Ha..



Ha... Ha...
Tiruvankiti, you too
heard that?

Bah! Birbal
spoiled everything.

Tiruvankiti just rushed out.

© Jingle Bell Creation

WHAT A GEM!

Guess the names of the precious stones with the help of the clues given below :

1. This is a bluish green stone which has the mineral beryl in it. It's latin name means sea water...!

2. An organic gem, it is made of calcium carbonate and is the external skeleton of a creature living in the tropical seas.

3. Purple in colour and found in granite and basalt rocks, this gem is a form of quartz.

4. This gem is a vitreous silicate mineral. It gets it's name from the word 'granatum' which means pomegranate in Latin. It is deep red in colour – much like the inside of a cut pomegranate!

5. A crystallized form of aluminium oxide, it is a transparent blue gem composed of the mineral corundum



6. About twenty percent of this gem comprises water and fluorine. The more the water content, the more golden brown it appears. If it has less of water and more of fluorine, it is blue or colourless.

- Gandharv Garg, Std.VIII,
Little Scholar School,
Hyderabad.



TRY

SOME BRAIN-STORMING!

1. Which word is always pronounced wrongly?

2. What's black when clean and white when dirty?

3. What is the beginning of entertainment and the end of time, space and minute and the beginning of every end and the end of every race?

4. Which animal falls from the clouds?



ACTIVITY

5. What question can never be answered by a yes?

(Source: 500 Jokes, Riddles and Fascinating Facts for Children)

- Yajnaseni Guha, Std.VII,
The Future Foundation School,
Kolkatta



LETTER OR WORD?



6.A letter that means us.

1.Which is the letter that means an insect?



- J.Akshay, Bhattad,
Std.VIII, DAV,
Wadi



'COMMON' QUESTIONS

1.What have a preacher and a tennis player in common?

2.What do farmers and gardeners grow at the same time?

3. Which room visits all the rooms

THESE...

2.Which letter means a hot drink?

3.This letter denotes a vegetable! every day?

4.A questioning letter..!

5.A letter which enables you to see...!

Compiled by : S.Rakshantha,
Std.V, K.V.,
Trivandrum

Answers :

What a Gem! : 1. Aquamarine, 2.Coral, 3.Amethyst, 4.Garnet, 5.Sapphire, 6.Topaz
Some Brain-Storming! 1. Wrongly, 2.A black board, 3. The letter 'e', 4. A reindeer, 5. Are you asleep?
Letter or Word? : 1. B, 2. T, 3. P, 4. Y, 5. I, 6. V
'Common' Questions : 1. Their service 2. older! 3. broom

CUISINE CORNER



CHOCO APPLES

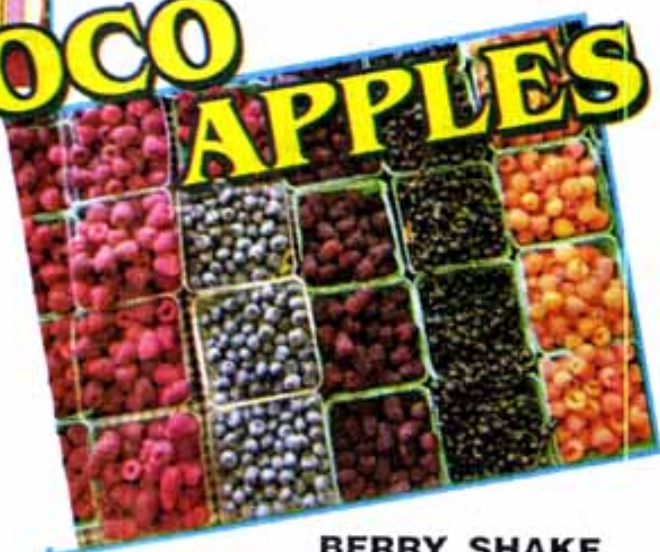
You need :

- Apple - 2
- Powdered sugar - 2 teaspoons
- Boost/Bournvita/Cocoa powder - 4 teaspoons
- Milk - ¼ glass

Method : Cut the apples into small pieces. Take a

small microwave bowl. Add sugar, cocoa powder and milk and mix well. Keep it in the microwave for 30 seconds. Delicious chocolate sauce is ready. Add it to the cut apples and you have a delicious dessert!

- Mira Sankar, Std.IV,
Indian School Sohar,
Muscat



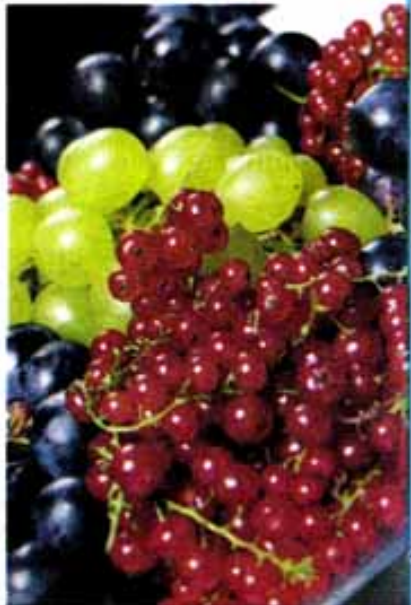
BERRY SHAKE

You need :

- Milk
- Ice Cream Sugar
- Strawberry (you can use any berry of your choice like blueberry or raspberry)
- Fresh Cream

Method : Blend the milk, ice cream, sugar and berries in a mixie and pour into a serving glass. Decorate with fresh creams! Now your yummy yummy berry shake is ready!

- Seema, Std.X, Pondicherry





"I'm a intelligent boy. Is this a correct sentence?"

"Incorrect Sir!"

"Why?"

"You're not a boy. You're a teacher, Sir!"

- G.Sailaxmi, Std.X,
Sri Sarada M.S., Tirunelveli

Teacher : Rohit, what is an acute angle?

Rohit : An angle which is very cute.

- N.Yamuna, Std.VI,
G.R.G.M.H.S. School,
Coimbatore



Acutely Funny



Sonu : Why are you signing yourself in your progres report?

Monu : Our teacher told us not to bother elders unnecessarily?

- K.Akila, Age : 14,
Banadurai Hr. Sec. School,
Kumbakonam

Gita : If two cows needed each other, what would that be?

Sita : It will be 'cow-operation'.

- R.Aishwarya, Std.VII,
Arya Central School,
Trivandrum



He's been in the newspapers in the past month or so for the opposition he has faced for setting up a plant for the production of the 'Nano', at Singur in West Bengal. As this piece is being written, the Singur issue is still at a stalemate, with the West Bengal government trying to bring all the players to the table and the opposition led by Mamata Banerjee, who are ostensibly* trying to get the farmers displaced by the buying out of the land, a fair deal.

Such political issues are always making headlines in our country, but

is the status, but in this article we are going to learn more about the man at the helm of affairs at the Tata Group, a man who put India proudly on the global business map with the Tata's takeover of Corus Group(an Anglo-Dutch steel company), the buying out of Jaguar & Land Rover from the Ford Motor Company; and of course, the launching of the Common Man's car, the Nano, at a very affordable Rs.1 lakh. Incidentally, in the merger with Corus, the Tatas created the fifth largest steel producing entity in the world.



A MAN OF

Ratan Tata

Born on December 28, 1937, Ratan Tata was brought up by his grandmother Lady Navabai because his parents Naval & Soonoo Tata separated when he was very young. He went to school in what was then Bombay and did a degree in Architecture and Structural Engineering from Cornell University. After that he began working in the family business, joining Tata Steel in Jamshedpur. His career then went on to strike positive notes with

Ratan Tata, Chairman of the Tata Group has made his stance clear, that if the state of West Bengal is not going to be welcoming to industry, the 'Nano' plant will be moved out.

At the time of going to print this

★ To all outward appearances

SANDHYA SRIDHAR

him turning around The National Radio & Electronics Company Limited (Nelco) which was then in financial difficulties.

In 1991 he took over as Group Chairman from J.R.D. Tata, ushering in freshness, with younger people and a new management perspective. Since then, there has been no looking back. Today, the Tata Group is one of the largest corporate entities of modern India, and one that has a history pre-dating Indian independence (see box). It was under Ratan Tata's stewardship that Tata Consul-

South Africa and also is on the programme board of the India AIDS initiative spearheaded by the Bill & Melinda Gates



MODESTY!

tancy Services went public and Tata Motors was listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Achiever

Ratan Tata received the Padma Bhushan from the Government of India in January 2000. He is a member of the International Investment Council created by the President of

Foundation. He is also a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry. It has been Ratan Tata's dream to manufacture a Rs.1 lakh car, and in the Nano, this dream has been achieved.

Values and ethics

In the present dog-eat-dog world of business, the Tata Group contin-

A PART OF INDIAN HISTORY

The Tata Group was established in 1968 by Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, a 29-year-old who created a trading company in Bombay. Interestingly, Tata Aviation Service established in 1932,

which later became Tata Airlines and Air India, belonged to the Tata Group. In 1953, the Indian government nationalised Air India and it became a government undertaking.

ues to be well-known for its values and stringent code of ethics. It has interests in many community initiatives, environment issues, sports and arts.

Who is he?

Ratan Tata the person, is never seen much in public life. Nor is he featured too often in newspapers or magazines other than in his profes-

A STORY FROM OUR READER

Long ago, there lived a river and a rivulet. The river was called Elisa and the rivulet was named Rosa.

One day, Elisa fell ill. She said to Rosa, "My child, I am going to leave this world soon. Please be kind to all the animals around you and God will bless you. If you are rude to them, be sure that God will punish you for your unkindness.

A few days later, Elisa died and Rosa was very very sad. But, alas, she did not pay heed to Elisa's words. She soon grew into a full fledged river but was vain and selfish and uncaring of the wild-life around her.

One day, a man came up to her and said, "Can I please have some water..all the other sources in the neighbourhood have dried up and I am very thirsty.

"No way!" replied Rosa. "I just cannot let you sip my clear water and pollute it.."

The man was angry. He threw off his disguise and guess who stood there in front of Rosa...?

It was God Almighty!

Rosa was in fear. 'How could I be

so rude to God?' she thought. 'Now He is going to punish me!'

"Rosa, I thought you were a fine, kind person, but you have been selfish and rude. You must face the consequence for this. Now all the animals in the forest will be rude to you.

Rosa pleaded with God: "I am truly sorry," she said. But God was firm. "I cannot withdraw the punishment" He said. "But, if you are kind, the curse will just fade away."

Saying so, God vanished and Rosa

The River and

was left to ruminate over her own faults.

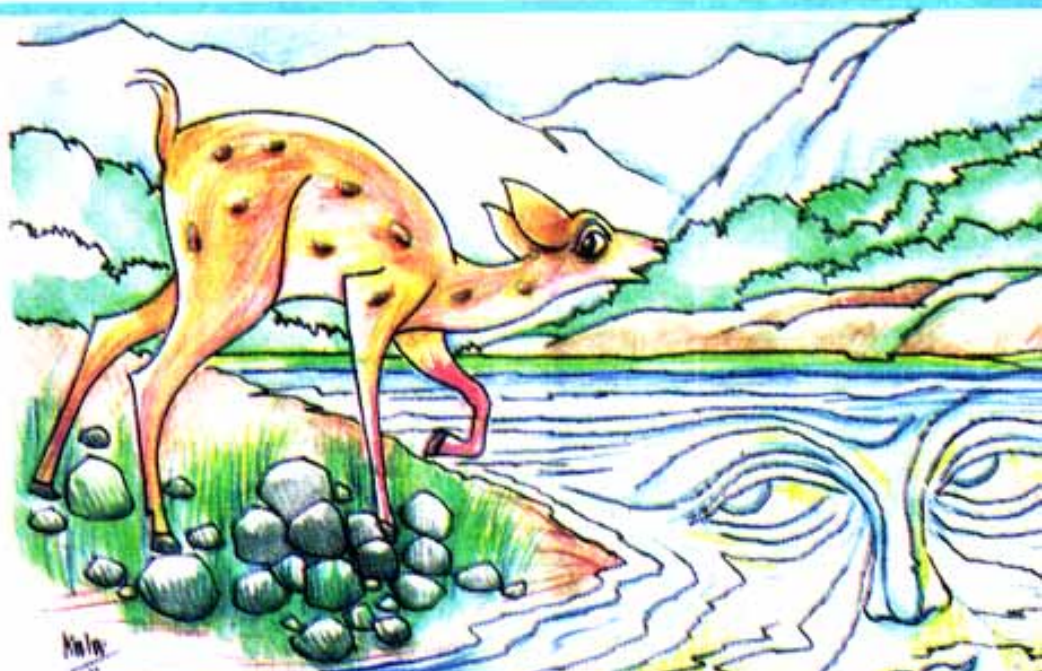
A few days went by and a deer came up to have a drink of water. He was limping and as he neared Rosa he asked, "Can I wash my wound in your water?"

Rosa replied, "Of course, but how did you get wounded?"

"A tiger came chasing me, and as I barely managed to escape, he almost

sional capacity. He has never married and for years, he has lived in a flat in Colaba in Mumbai. His love for dogs and his fondness for books are well-known.

This man we are talking about interestingly, has in the past year been listed as one of the 25 most powerful people in business by Fortune magazine!



the Rivulet

caught me and I got mauled.”

Rosa felt the deer's pain for a moment and said, “My dear friend, here, let me wash your wounds and give you a cool drink.”

The deer thanked Rosa profusely and left, refreshed and happy.

In the days that followed, Rosa extended similar help to a tortoise, a fox and a rabbit.

Slowly, the curse faded away.

God appeared again before Rosa and said, “This is your new avatar Rosa, I shall rename you as Elixir and your waters shall heal all wounds and illness.”

Rosa, no, Elixir blushed with pride and resolved to be even more kind.

Elixir is a dried up river bed today, but she did exist long ago.

- Shreya Shridhar, Std.III,
National Public School,
Bengalooru

HOW SHARP ARE YOU...?



Can you spot the five differences between the two pictures?

Answers on page : 80

Attention!

Most of you have been sending us jokes, facts and snippets gathered from the internet or G.K. books. Do show us how original you can be. Write your thoughts and ideas on various issues. Report funny happenings at school or home. Do make sure that you put down your name, age, class, school name and residential address individually on each and every contribution that you send to Gokulam.

★ The best ones will be published and a participation certificate will be sent to the contributor.

★ Please preserve your participation certificates. In case you don't receive the certificates which are mailed to you by Gokulam, keep a xerox copy of your contribution in your collection. The contributor who collects the most

number of certificates will win a prize.

★ All competition entries should reach us before the last date mentioned.

★ Entries to Birthday Bash column should reach us along with the appropriate message and photographs **two months before the birthday.**

★ Do be original in your contributions and creations. If you have based your writing on a source, be sure to acknowledge it and name it and...

NEVER EVER COPY!

**All Gokulam
Readers and
Contributors...**



CAKE WALK!

It was a cake walk for the winners
in the 'Party Time' drawing
competition.

Artist Pillai who conceived
the competition
has selected the following entries
as the best three!

CONGRATS WINNERS!





BOBBY'S BIRTHDAY!

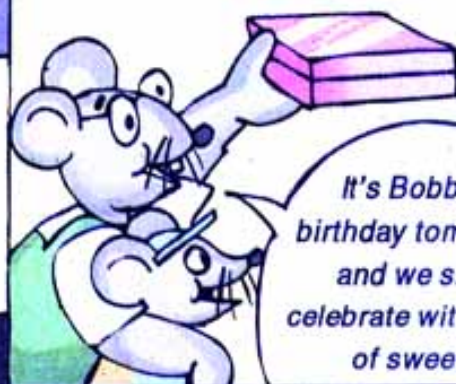
Story : ARUN SINGH

Pictures : PILLAI



Ramu was the leader of the rat congregation...

We must live in harmony
always and share our pains
and gains.

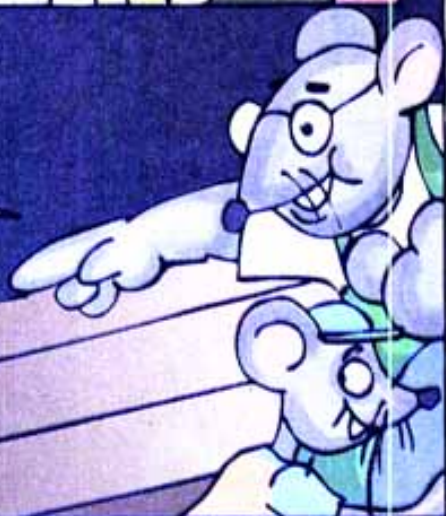


It's Bobby's
birthday tomorrow
and we shall
celebrate with a box
of sweets.

Yeah! That's
jolly good!



I'll leave
the sweet box
here while all of
you get your
sleep.



At midnight... Bobby stealthily approached

How appetizing it smells? Let me eat all of it right now.

Why should I share it? It's my birthday, after all... I'll eat it all up by dawn.

The next day...

What happened to the box of sweets? Who stole it?

Look, I found the empty box. Someone has gobbled up the sweets?

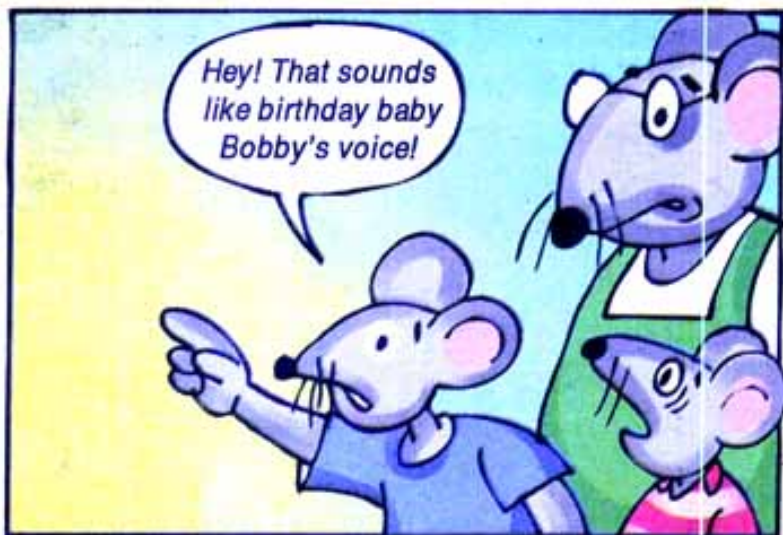
Who could it be...?

Trust us, We did not!

A voice
floated in...

Ooh! My
tummy!
How hard it
hurts....!
aah!

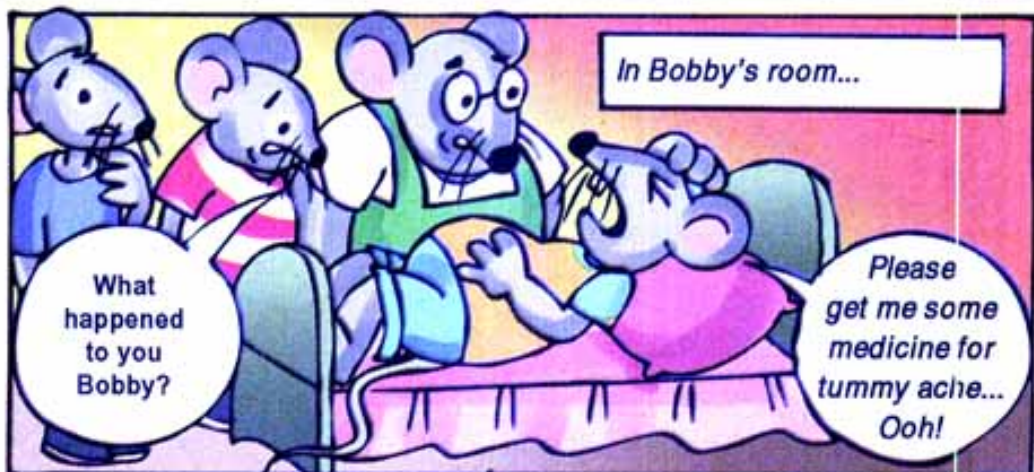
Hey! That sounds
like birthday baby
Bobby's voice!



In Bobby's room...

What
happened
to you
Bobby?

Please
get me some
medicine for
tummy ache...
Ooh!



Bobby's pain subsided on taking
the medicines.



You must
forgive me. I
greedily ate up all
the sweets.

So, you
were the
thief!

You've learnt
your lesson the hard way
Bobby. Never steal. Share
your goodies and share
your joy!



Zero-In - 3

Write down the answers indicated by the clues. Rearrange the letters in the circled squares, to zero-in on the final answer

1. Gandhiji was born here

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Gandhiji's famous salt satyagraha march ended here

--	--	--	--	--	--

3. Ashram near Wardha founded by Gandhiji

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4. Mother of Gandhiji

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

5. Place at Delhi where Gandhiji was shot

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

6. Russian writer, whose principles of non violence attracted Gandhiji

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

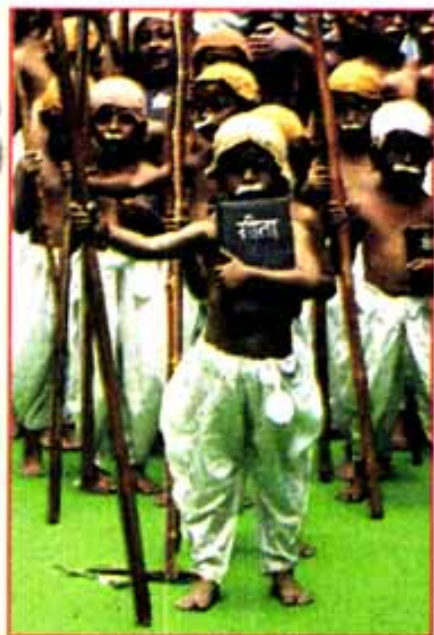
7. Last words of Gandhiji

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer :

This Ashram was Gandhiji's home from 1917 to 1930.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Fill in the form on the reverse of this page and send in your entries to Gokulam before 20.10.08

- G.S.S

**Parle 20-20 khao
Short mein niptao**

www.parle.com

ZERO IN -1

Congratulations!

Here are the winners of Zero-In - 1 (August 2008) and the solutions as well. The results of Zero In - 2 will be published in the November 2008 issue.

1. S.Poojitha, Std.VII, I.T.I. Central High School, Bengalooru.

2. V.Z.Sufaira, Std.X, OLFGHS, Mathilakam.

3. Kirthisagar, Std.VII, St. Vincent's School for Boys, Pune - 1.

4. Sudarshan Gopal, Std.V,

1. G R E E C E

2. S W I M M I N G

3. A T L A N T A

4. T R I A T H L O N

5. M A L L E S W A R I

6. B A R C E L O N A

Answer :

C O N T I N E N T S

APEEJAY School, Sheikh Sarai, New Delhi - 17.

5. K.Karen, Std.X, Nirmala Matric Hr. Sec. School, Chidambaram.

ZERO-IN - 3 Entry Form

Name : (Mr/Ms)

Age :

Class :

School :

* Residential Address :

..... Pin

Signature :

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

**The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.**

● Strictly for school going children ● Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. ● Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only ● No xerox copies.

Last Date : 20.10.2008

I have been helping my parents with house-work since my third standard days. I also manage all my school related money transactions like fees, bus-pass, etc on behalf of my parents. I find that there is enough time to manage all of it and also that the experience is interesting and educative.

- K.Murugalakshmi,
Std.XII, Sri Jeyandra
Silver Jubilee HSS,
Tirunelveli; S.
Thayapurani, Std.VIII,
Dr.P.G.V. M.H.S.S.,
Coimbatore

BASICS

FOR

AN MBA!

Children may help their parents with house-work or management according to their age. It will certainly help them to face problems in life when they grow up.

- J.Indhuja, Std.IX, R.S.K. Higher
Secondary School,
Trichy; G.Bhargavi,
Std.XII, Holy Angels'
Anglo Indian School,
Chennai; M.S.Gowri Shankari,
Std.VIII, Good Sheperd
M.H.S.S., Marthandam,
Tamil Nadu

It is really good for children to involve in house-work and running the home because it teaches them responsibility and the value of money early in life.

- Kafeela Parvin,
Std.X,
O.L.F.G.H.S.Thirussur;
Abivanth Murali,
Std.VIII, Bharathiya
Vidya Bhava,
Trivandrum; Neha
Nandan, Std.IX, Carmel
Jyothi School,
Doddaballapur; Arjun
Shankar, Std.XII, Jaigopal
Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya,
Chennai



House-work is a part of life. By the time kids go off to college, they should be able to fend for themselves and do their own laundry properly. Helping to run the household will prove to be good training.

- **Yashwanth, Std.X, Akshayah School, Chennai; Jayashree Raman, Age 17, SIES-GST, Nerul, Navi Mumbai**

Both boys and girls must be asked to join in domestic chores and in managing the house. Parents can insist on this and children can spare some time from their leisure.

- **Neha Jha, Std.XI, Rama Devi Women's College, Bhubaneswar; Pranav Kolady, Second Grade, Challenger School, San Jose, USA; J.Vijayalakshmi, Std.VI, Devi M.H.S.S., Palani, Tamil Nadu**

Why not do house-work as a pleasant diversion from studies which take up so much of time and energy?

- **Sneha Antony, Std.X, K.V., Dhrangadhra, Gujarat; V.Sriram, Std.IX, MES Kishore Kendra, Bengalooru; A.Sindhu, Std.XII, Green Park M.H.S.S.S., Namakkal**

Only when children do some



house-work will they know the value of what their parents are doing for them every day. Children must realize this.

- **R.V.Saargunam, Std.IX, Shri Nehru Vidyalaya, Coimbatore**

A helping hand to mom would do no harm. It would shower a rain of blessings upon us. The family bond will be strengthened.

- **Anish Antony, Std.VI, K.V, Dhrangadhra, Gujarat; Meenakshi, Std.VII, Christnagar Senior Secondary School, Thycaud, Kerala; N.Srividya, Std.IX, Hindu S.S.S., Chennai**

Responsibility when taught at a young age, builds character. Once children start helping around in the house, they become equipped to handle situations better. Every child thus acquires the basics for an MBA!

- **Jyothsna Rengarajan, Age 15, K.V., Uppal, Andhra Pradesh**

Children should not be pressurized to do house-work. Exams and studies are pressure enough for them. If the child feels like helping out, he must be allowed to do so.

- **Iyengar V. Prasanna Venkatesh, Age 15, I.B. Patel English School, Vallabh Vidya Nagar**

The family is the first training ground for children and parents are their first teachers. So children must help with house-work so that they can learn a lot.

- **K.Karen, Std.X, Nirmala M.H.S.S., Chidambaram**

Children too are a part of the family and they must definitely help in running the house.

- Aparup Aich, Std.VII, Saraswathi Vidya Mandir, Hooghly; A.Deepa, Std.IX, K.V., Madurai

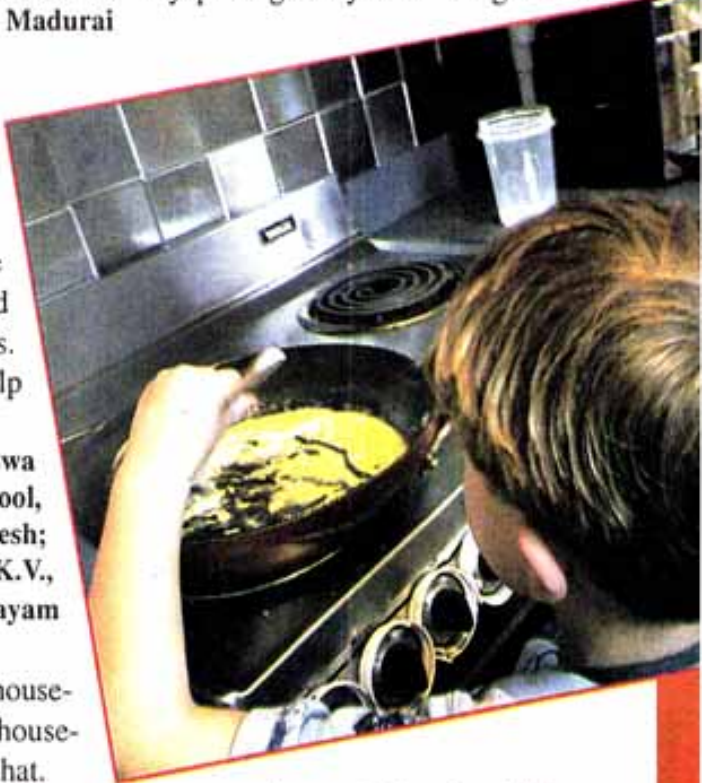
With both parents working in most households, joint families turning into a thing of the past and domestic help hard to come by, the adults at home are hard pressed for time to do the daily chores. Children would do well to help them.

- K.Siri, Std.VII, Viswa Bharati Public School, Gudiwada, Andhra Pradesh; Sanjana. S. Shenoi, Std.IX, K.V., Kottayam

Children could help with house-work but not in running the household..they are too young for that.

- M.H.Sanju, Std.VII, St.Joseph's Central School, Mysore; Rohan Singh Jain, Std.VI, D.A.V. Public School, Chennai; Vishishtha Upul, Std.VI, Nikita Vipul, Std.X, D.A.V. Public School, Ranchi

In my opinion, children need not help with house-work and running the family. These are duties of elders. Children can be asked to co-operate by putting away their things in the



proper place and keeping their own places tidy, etc.

- P.K.Anvitha, Std.VI, Kaiga Township, Karwar; Dipali Parab, Std.IX, Deepvihar School, Vasco, Goa

QUESTION FOR THE MONTH :

Should all children participate in competitions?

Send us your views by 20.10.2008. Each published entry will receive a prize of Rs. 25/-. Remember to include details of your age, class, school and residential address. Those of you who are non-residents of India should send us a local (Indian) address too. You can send entries by post or by e.mail (gokulam@kalkiweekly.com)

AJANTA



Most of us have heard about the Ajanta cave paintings. But, what is Ajanta? The name is derived from the name of the village Ajintha, in Aurnagabad district of Maharashtra state. It is in this village that the world-famous Ajanta caves

are located.

The caves are to be found in a rugged, horse-shoe shaped formation of rocky ravines, about three and a half kilometres from the village. There are twenty nine caves, identified and numbered by the archaeological survey of India.

Why are these caves archaeologically important? It is because their walls are decorated with astoundingly beautiful murals which date back to the Buddhist period in Indian history. Many of the paintings are still 'alive' with the beauty that the nameless artistes gave to them and their earthy colours still remain unfaded.

In fact, the monastic



PAINTINGS

INDIAN ART

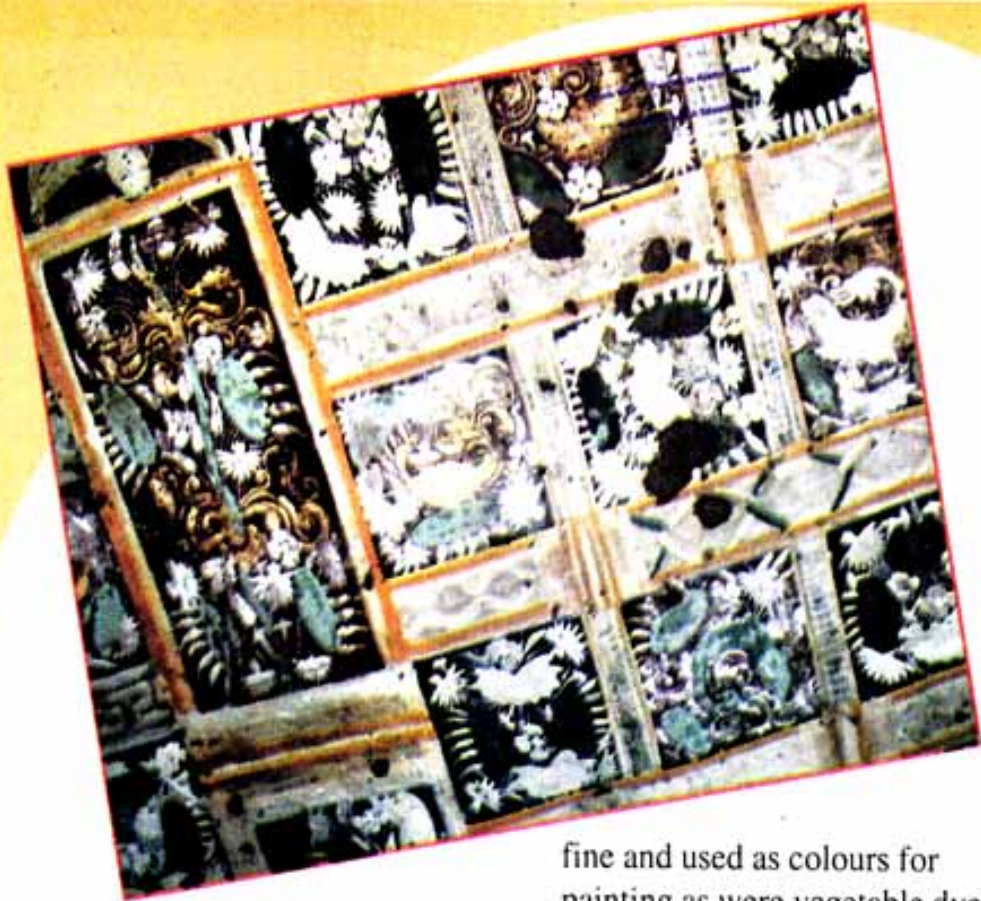
complex of Ajanta consists of several viharas (monastic halls where monks resided) and chaitanya grihas (halls which house monuments called stupis). The entire complex has been built on a natural rock formation and is an outstanding example of splendid architecture too.

Huien Tsang the Chinese scholar-traveller who visited India in the 8th century, has documented his findings about Ajanta in his travelogue. From this, we come to know that Ajanta was a renowned

seat of Buddhist scholars and philosophers.

How did the artistes and craftsmen work in the deep dark caves in days which knew not the use of electricity? Oil lamps or torches were ruled out, for they would leave thick coats of soot on the walls of the caves! Well, they





adopted an ingenious technique to reflect light into the caves: they used large shiny mirrors to reflect sunlight into the caves and carefully used smoke free vegetable oils to burn torches for lighting up the dark corners. All these techniques are believed to have been evolved by Buddhist monks and the artistes too were mostly monks of the monastery.

Pebbles and mineral stones found on the mountain side were ground

fine and used as colours for painting as were vegetable dyes obtained from leaves and flowers. The colours were mixed with thin natural gum to give them an adhesive quality. The main colours used were red, ochre, yellow, brown, black, white and blue.

The Ajanta caves have been listed by the UNESCO as a World Heritage Site and this is a matter of great pride to our country. This heritage site attracts tourists and scholars of art and history from world over.

Compiled with inputs from websites by : Ashwini Kamath, Std.XII, Barkur, Karnataka.

When a patient enters a hospital, it is more likely that a nurse will take charge of him/her before a doctor does. A good nurse is well trained in handling a patient and administering care or treatment until the doctor arrives and takes charge. In fact, even after the doctor arrives, he stays with the patient only for a few minutes, till he diagnoses the ailment and decides on the course of treatment. After that it is the nurses all the way! They administer the treatment



MARVELS OF THE MEDICAL WORLD - 3

Dr. N.A. JAYAVELAN

health.

While there are many male nurses in hospitals, traditionally and naturally, it is the women nurses who are a majority. This is because the art of nursing comes more naturally to women who are well-equipped by



* Some nursing students

A Doctor's Right Hand!

meticulously and maintain the patient's progress chart. A nurse is at hand when a patient needs help or consolation. She also helps a patient to convalesce and get back his good

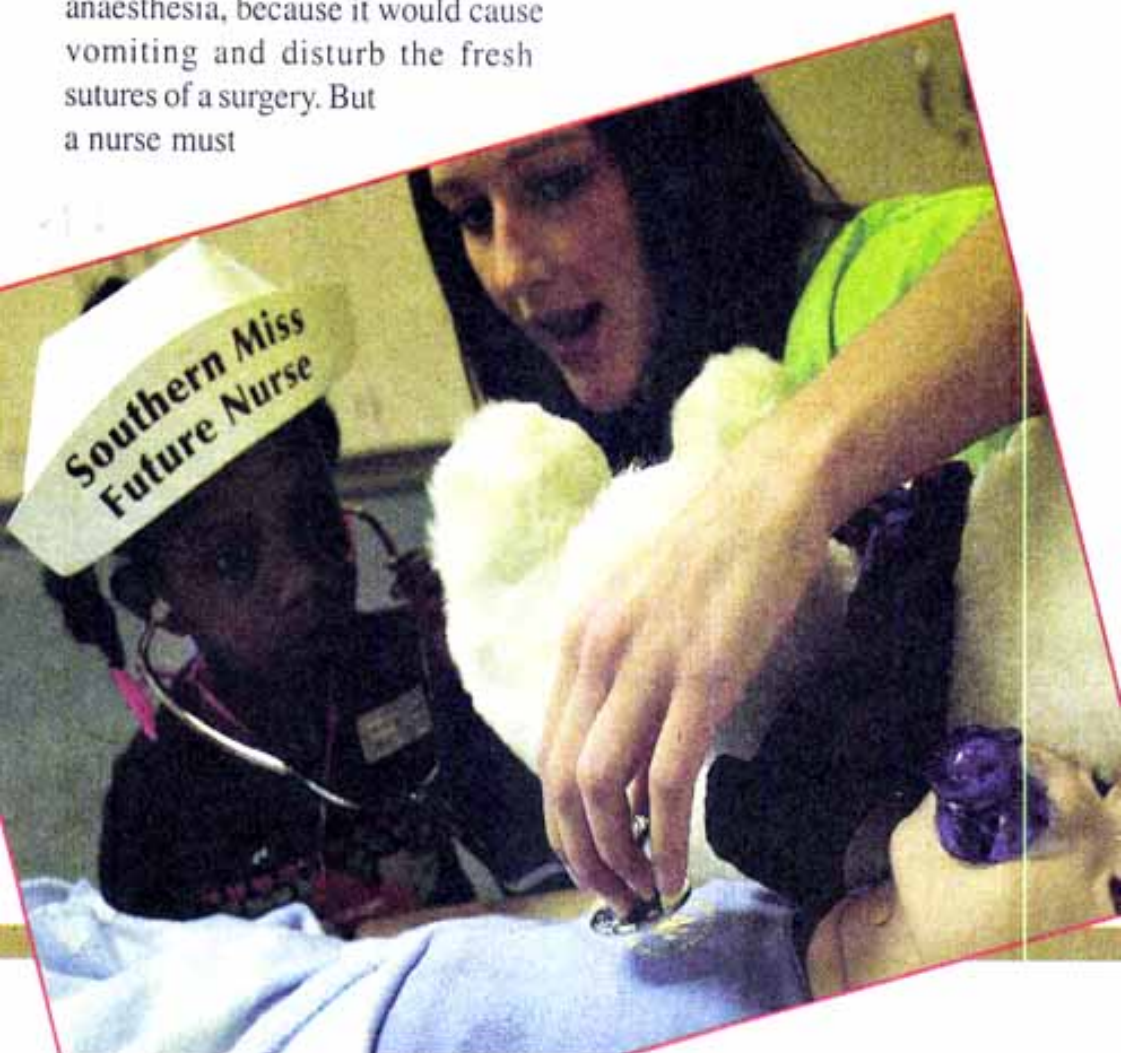
Nature for child-bearing and rearing. The patience and loving care that a lady brings to motherhood, makes it easier for her to meet the

requirements of a profession with very similar needs.

The word 'nursing' could also be associated with a nursery class or a garden where tender care is given to an infant or a young plant. The very young are incapable of asking for what they want and it is for those who look after them to identify their needs and provide timely sustenance. A hospital nurse's role is no different. A patient may ask for water soon after a surgery. But a nurse will not give it to him while he is still under the influence of anaesthesia, because it would cause vomiting and disturb the fresh sutures of a surgery. But a nurse must

wear her best smile even while doing this! A rich smile and a gentle touch go a long way in getting a patient back to normalcy.

Florence Nightingale is a splendid example of a committed nurse. She is still held as a role model to aspiring nurses. After the Crimean wars, when no electricity was available, she would carry a wax candle in her hand and move through the hospital from bed to bed, offering care and solace to wounded soldiers



There are quite a few colleges that offer training in nursing. All of them are usually attached to hospitals in order that the students get good hands on training with patients. There are mainly two kinds of courses: the degree course and the diploma course which is for a period of three and a half years.

A mid-wife is a trained junior nurse who assists her better qualified senior. She can also handle uncomplicated deliveries in remote villages where medical help is not available.

A senior nurse assists the surgeon in an operation theatre. She lays out the required equipment before the surgery starts. She hands the surgeon the right implement at the right moment without his having to ask for it, she even wipes the sweat on his brows when necessary.

An ICU nurse has the expertise to attend on patients who need critical care. She has to keep a vigilant watch on the patient and report immediately to the doctor if there are any alarming changes or differences. However, she cannot administer treatment or injections unless when instructed by the doctor.

For all these functions, the nurse needs to have a considerable



knowledge of anatomy, physiology, medicine and pharmacology. All these subjects which are taught to a doctor are taught at nurse's training too – but in lesser detail.

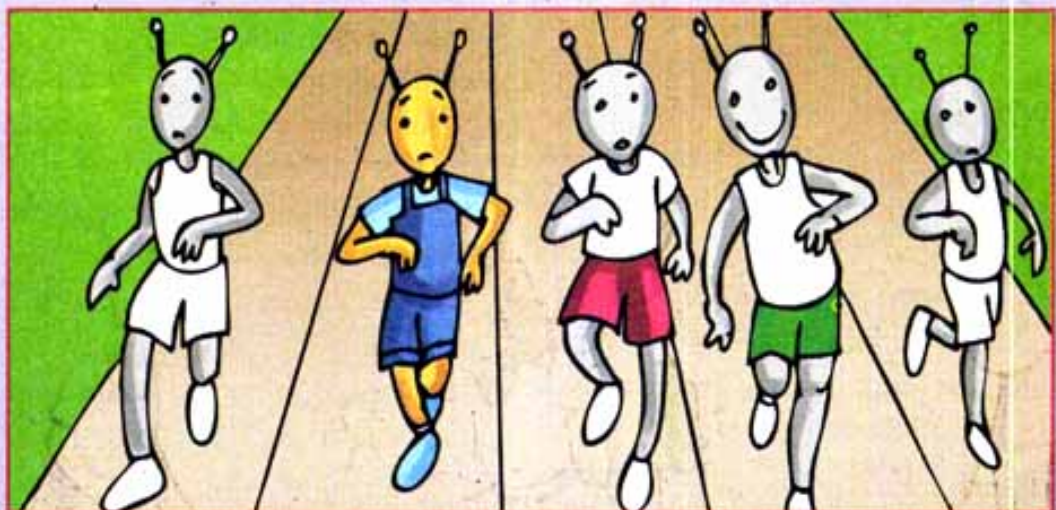
Nursing includes the important role of keeping a patient clean and comfortable. It means that the nurse should be prepared to sponge the patient or offer him a bed-pan without feeling uncomfortable about it. In fact, it should be done so naturally as to make even the patient feel comfortable.

Those who wish to take up the nursing profession must possess great patience, and value service and human tenderness a great deal.

As told to G.S.S.

in RACE AND GRACE!

I must win this race... and I won't have Grantina complain that I did not try hard enough!





October 2nd last year was celebrated in a unique manner by our school. It was truly a tribute to the two great sons of India, Mahathma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Sastri, whose birthday it was.

The students of each class were divided into groups and each group was given a different duty. One group was asked to clean up the class room and another was made in charge of cleaning the play ground. The other groups had the bus and cycle stands to attend

to and the verandahs and the auditorium stage were given to some groups. The entire school was involved in a huge clean-up the whole day. Our teachers had told us about Gandhiji and how he believed in the dignity of labour and tried to impart it to all the inmates of his ashram. Our efforts at cleaning the school premises were a great way to experience Gandhian ideology.

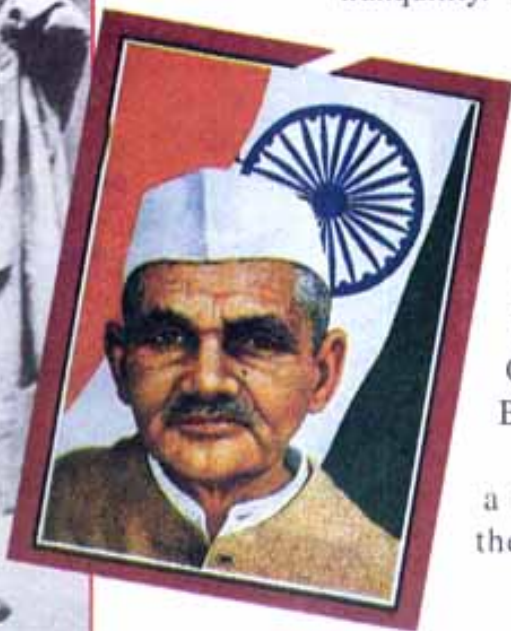
After the cleaning was over, there was a formal function. It started with Ram Dhun, which

Ideology in

filled the entire atmosphere with tranquility. This was followed by

prayers from different religious texts. Students dressed in appropriate attire, read out passages from The Bible, The Koran, The Guru Granth Sahib and the Bhagavat Gita.

Following this was a quiz contest based on the lives of The



Mahathma and
Sastriji.

The program-
me wound up with
Gandhiji's
favourite song
Vaishanva janato.

- Smruthi Sudha
Behera, Std.XI,
Chinmaya
Vidyalaya,
Rourkela.



SCHOOL EVENTS



Action!

Five Days of Pure Fun!

When my teachers forced me to join the Smile Camp for summer, I was not too sure that I would enjoy it. But my experience turned out to be otherwise.

On day one of the five day camp, even the introductions were fun-filled. We were asked to pass a ball around as the music played and when the music stopped, the child who held the ball had to introduce him/herself.

Earlier, the camp was inaugurated by Sant Ammma of The Chinmaya Foundation and we were divided into groups which were given flower names like rose, tulip etc. I was in the tulip group.

Each day of the camp was differently structured. On the second day we had a yoga session after which we went on to tree and wall-climbing, river crossing and other outdoor activities.

The third day started with a fashion show. After this, Dr.Vijayalakshmi, a dietician spoke to us about healthy eating habits. Dramatist Chandrahasan gave us training in stage craft and we managed to present a small play.

The clay modelling session on the fourth day was so funny! I started out with making a man's face, but it turned into a wall-clock!

The closing ceremony was presided over by film star Kalpana who distributed to us the Smile T-shirts as mementos of the camp.

- Kalidas Prasad, Std.VII,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya,
Tirupunithura, Kerala.

EXPERIENCE

I was in the first standard then and it was the first time that we were asked to bring a pair of scissors to school. The teacher momentarily left the class and we were at a bit of a loose end. Someone suggested a swanky activity – at least at that age it seemed interesting – that we cut someone's hair with the scissors! The next moment, three other classmates joined me and we started to cut the hair of the boy who



A BUDDING HAIRSTYLIST!

suggested the use of the scissors! He did not object but rather enjoyed our experimenting on him and all this fun was, of course, only till the teacher walked back into the class. She was shocked to see our masterpiece of a job on our friend's head and all of us got a sound scolding. Our parents were summoned to school the following day and were shown the poor boy whose head bore testimony to our prank and perhaps proved too, how bad we were at cutting hair!

- Ramya Kesharwani, Std. XI,
K.V., Koliwada, Mumbai

FUN AND FROLIC

One fine morning, my parents left me at my friend's house and went to Palakkad, nearby to distribute invitation cards fro my Upanayanam.

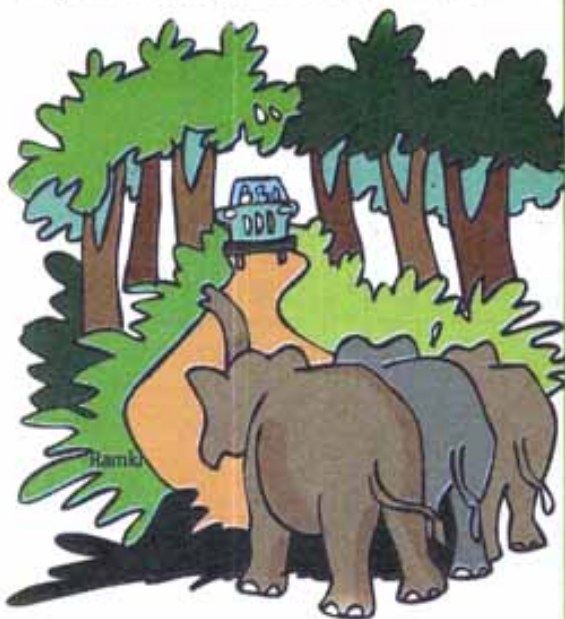


My friend and I first played a lot of video games and had such fun with the shooting challenges. After an hour of this, we went out into the garden and played cricket. When it was my turn to bat, I hit a huge six. The ball fell into the open drain outside the house! Thus ended our cricket and we were summoned for lunch. My friend's mother had cooked a lovely meal. We ate heartily and then went on to play hide and seek. I hid behind some trees in the huge garden and waited holding my breath. Suddenly there was a rustling noise from behind me and I thought it was my friend coming up to catch me. I started running and to my surprise, my friend was running towards me and before we could stop, we bumped into each other and fell in a heap! How we laughed and splashed mud at each other! After all the excitement, I had to go back home when my parents came in to pick me up. But it was a memorable day and full of fun.

**- Jairam Sankar, Std.VII,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya,
Tirupunithura**

(Dear Jairam Sankar, You seem to have enjoyed yourself thoroughly at your friend's house but you have not mentioned his name. Surely, Gokulam readers would love to know it. - Editor)

Once, we visited Rajaji National Park near Haridwar, in Uttarkhand. It covered an area of 35k.m. It took us two and a half hours to complete the safari. We went in an open jeep with a local driver, who also served as a guide. It was a thrilling experience to travel through a thick



forest in an open jeep. There were herds of elephants, deer, groups of chattering monkeys, some peacocks and blue bulls. Towards the end of our ride, a group of wild elephants blocked our path and momentarily even moved towards us. Ofcourse, we panicked. But they decided to move away and we heaved a sigh of relief. It was a most adventurous moment and we heartily thanked God for saving our lives.

**- A.Sheetal Mary, Std.IX,
St. Anne's Convent School,
Chandigarh**

Tongue wisters

I cannot bear to see a bear
Bear down upon a hare
When bare of hair he strips the hare,
Right there I cry, "Forbear!"

The boot black bought
the black boot back.

Old oily ollie oils old oily
autos.

The two-twenty-two train
tore through the tunnel.

We surely shall see the
sun shine soon.

I am not the pheasant plucker,
I'm the pheasant plucker's mate
I am only plucking pheasants
'Cause the pheasant plucker's running late.

A flea and a fly flew up in flue
Said the flea "Let us fly!"
Said the fly, "Let us flee!"
So they flew through a flaw in the flue!

- Moose noshing much mush.
- Sly Sam slurps Sally's soup.
- Six short slow shepherds.
- Lovely lemon liniment.
- Fat frogs flying past fast.

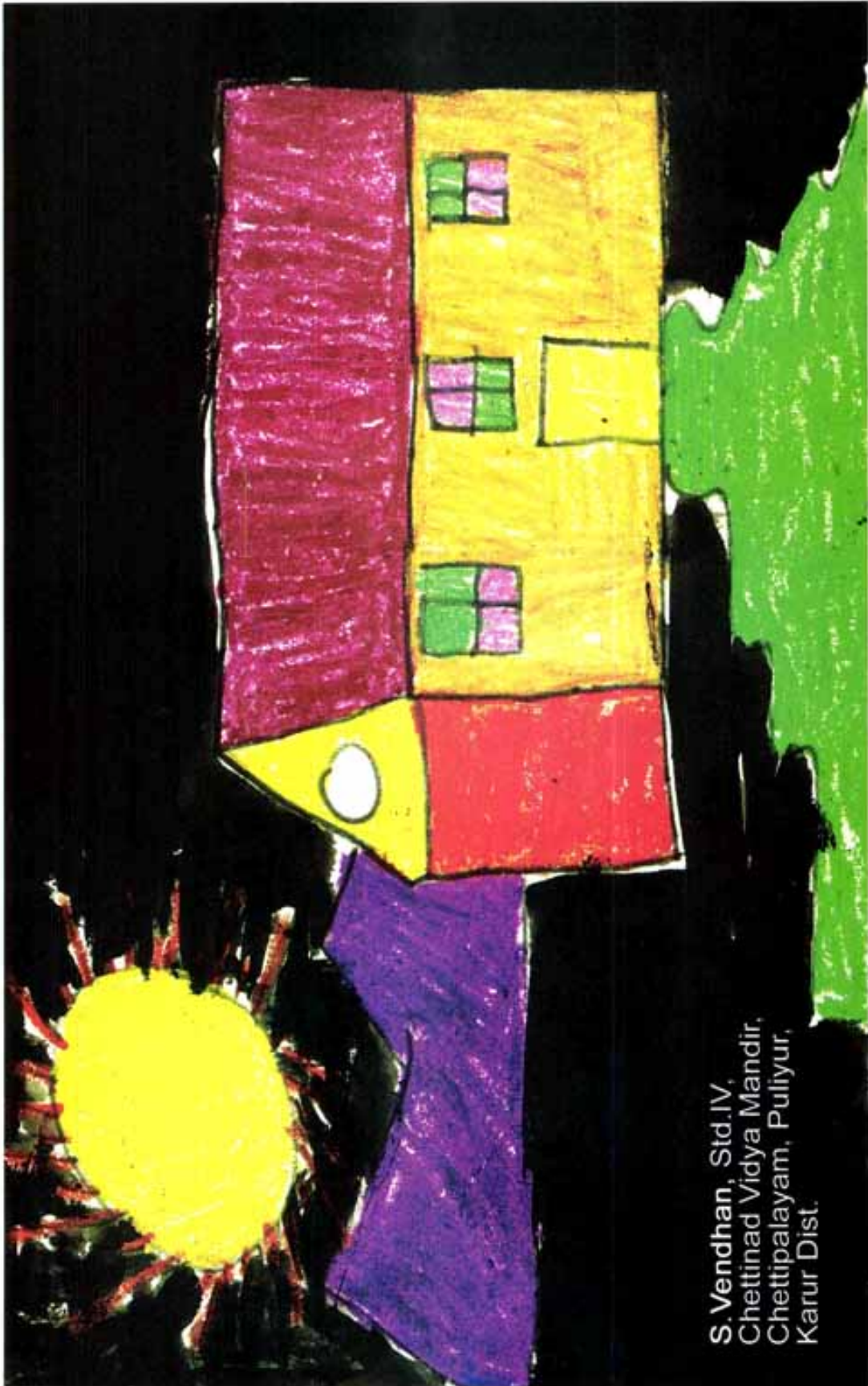
(Source : Internet)

Compiled by : Hamsini Natarajan,
Std.XI, The Brigade School,
Bengalooru

Answers to Puzzle on page 56 :

- 1) ladder 2) colour of the ball
- 3) colour of boy's shoes
- 4) bucket handle 5) A leg missing in the garden chair





S. Vendhan, Std. IV,
Chettinad Vidya Mandir,
Chettipalayam, Puliur,
Karur Dist.

Street fashion For the funky ones

BSA Champ Girlz 16



BSA Champ offers exciting models for today's funky kids. Trendy colours, thoughtful utility and safety features - all in the BSA Champ range. It's time to get out of the living room and pedal away on the street!